THE TIMES

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Polish MPs warned by Primate

Poland's Roman Catholic Church intervened for the first time in the Solidarity's crisis with the state. The Primate, Archbishop Jozep Glemp, writing to all MPs, warned of the serious consequences if they adopted a law giving the Government emergency powers. Such a law might force Solidarity to stage large-scale strikes sparking "a serious conflict" he said. Page 7

£300m loophole for councils

Local councils may escape a £300m penalty for overspending because of doubts over its legality. The Local Government Finance Bill, which contains a clause to cover the penalty retrospectively is stalled in the House of Commons Page 3

Salim withdraws from UN ballot

Mr Salim Ahmed Salim, the Tanzanian Foreign Minister and the Third World choice for United Nations Secretary-General, withdrew from further balloting in the Security Council after a final, fruitless effort to persuade the United States to support his candidacy Page 6

French scorn

M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, has scorned the EEC Venice Declaration for the Middle East, describing parts of it as absurd. The minister, who is in Israel, said it was up to the countries in the region to decide their own future. The remarks delighted the Israelis Page 6

Ferry bid barred

European Ferries has been barred from taking over British Rail's Sealink shipping subsidiary by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The Government has accepted a Commission report that a merged ferry company would reduce competition, particularly on English Channel services Page 13

Sakharov 'poor'

Dr Andrei Sakharov, the dissident Soviet physicist who is on hunger strike in Gorkiy, was reported in very poor health. Miss Liza Alexeyeva, his wife's daughter-in-law by a proxy marriage, said he was not being force-fed Page 7

Premier resigns

Mr Anker Joergensen, the Danish Prime Minister, resigned after his Social-Democratic Party suffered a setback in national elections yesterday. They are likely to lose eight of their 68 parliamentary seats

Seat belt law

Exemptions from wearing car seat belts under the new law, expected next summer, will be kept to a minimum and based only on "the most compelling reasons", the Government said Page 5

No further cuts

The City was disappointed as news of a bank-lending surge and poor money supply figures during November killed off hopes of a further cut in interest rates this year Page 13

Numbers game

Advertisers are concerned that the bingo "war" among popular Fleet Street newspapers may be artificially inflating circulations without winning real gains in readership, according to the Audit Bureau of Circulation Page 13

9% in pipeline

A pay offer of just over 9 per cent is to be recommended to 32,000 water workers by their union negotiators Page 2

David Lean back

David Lean, whose last film was *Ryan's Daughter* back in 1970, is set to return to the cinema. He will film E. M. Forster's *A Passage to India*. He is interviewed by John Higgins Page 8

Heath attacks Howe for failing to save economy

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

Mr Edward Heath yesterday made a powerful and withering attack on government policy when he intervened at an early stage of the debate in the Commons on the Chancellor's public expenditure proposals of last week.

He told Sir Geoffrey Howe, who was sitting hunched gloomily between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, that there had never been any practical or intellectual justification for monetarism.

He went on to warn the Government of the growing unrest on the Conservative benches over the failure to produce measures to help reduce the number of unemployed and over the threats of more damaging education cuts. Education facilities lost to students, he protested, could never be regained. That was the loss of a generation and the loss for a lifetime and there would be the strongest possible objections among Tory MPs if that happened.

As the debate opened, Sir Geoffrey Howe seemed an almost lone voice crying in the wilderness as he bravely told the House that he could detect multiplying signals of an economic recovery. Sir Geoffrey was in one of his more optimistic moods but that was not reflected in many other sections of the Commons.

The motion to approve Sir Geoffrey's proposals was carried by 307 votes to 265, a Government majority of 42. The Labour amendment calling for the statement to be rejected and for the Government to abandon its totally discredited medium term financial strategy was earlier defeated by 307 votes to 267, a Government majority of 40. The Government's majority over all other parties in the House is 39.

There was a star studded cast waiting to speak as the debate opened on the proposals, which Sir Geoffrey stoutly insisted did not amount to a mini-budget.

From all sides, Mr Heath among the Tories, Mr Peter Shore opening for the Opposition and Mrs Shirley Williams speaking for the SDP for the first time after her victory at Crosby, there were loud calls for varying degrees of reflation, in housing, harbours, railways and a host of other capital spending projects.

Mr Heath told the Chancellor that his constant emphasis on the public sector, with the intimation that it was something on the whole rather undesirable, and on the private sector, whose health must be rightly preserved, led to wrong judgments which could be damaging to the economy.

The two sectors, he told the House, were inextricably bound together. On the cutback on unemployment benefits, Mr Heath said that he would need a great deal of persuasion that it was inescapable. It was fallacious and unacceptable to argue that because there had to be a reduction in the standard of living, the unemployed must bear their share of the burden.

He urged Sir Geoffrey to remove the present confusion by making plain what policies he was following. In a slightly cynical tone, the former prime minister detected, if not a U-turn, then at least a veering by the Government in the right direction. He suggested that the Chancellor was showing a most welcome change in attitude by stating that he was now going to take account of

Continued on back page, col 5

Gilmour leads Tory rebels

Sir Ian Gilmour, the former Cabinet minister, last night led a backbench rebellion against the Government's spending plans for 1982-83 (Philip Webster writes).

A dozen of those Conservative MPs who failed to vote at the end of a debate on Sir Geoffrey Howe's statement on the economy last Wednesday let it be known before the vote that they were deliberately abstaining.

They were Mr Patrick Cormack, Mr Julian Critchley, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Mr Hugh Dykes, Mr Alan Haselhurst, Mr Robert Hicks, Mr David Knox, Mr Charles Morrison, Mr Robin Squire, Mr Dennis Walters, Mr John Watson and Sir Ian Gilmour.

Scargill hints at replay of 1974

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The miners are moving steadily towards a 1974-style pay conflict with the Government after formally rejecting a £99.97m wage offer and electing Britain's best-known left-winger as their union president.

Leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers voted by a 3 to 1 majority to refuse the 9.1 per cent "final" offer, mirroring the rank-and-file landslide majority given to Mr Arthur Scargill, the Yorkshire area president in the presidential election.

Mr Scargill's unprecedented victory was announced by Mr Joseph Gormley, the outgoing president during a break in yesterday's abortive pay talks in London. As predicted in *The Times*, he won outright on the first ballot, taking 138,803 votes, 70.3 per cent of those cast in an 80 per cent poll in last week's secret pithead ballot.

His nearest rival was right-winger Mr Trevor Bell, secretary of the union's white-collar group, with 34,075 votes followed by Mr Ray Chadburn, the Nottinghamshire president, and Mr Bernard Donaghy, Lancashire president.

Mr Scargill lost no time in denouncing the coal board's offer of weekly increases ranging from £6.30 on the surface to £8.70 at the face, plus improved productivity and holiday bonuses.

"We could see the decisions of this Conservative Government and their cash limit policies and their agents in the coal board bringing about a wage confrontation. "The responsibility is theirs, not ours. I hope common sense will prevail, but it looks as though it is a little comparable with 1974. I hope the membership will accept the recommendation of the union's executive in a ballot and give authority to take industrial action."

Following the sequence set by previous strikes, the NUM national executive meets tomorrow to call a special delegate conference before Christmas, and then seeks the 55 per cent majority in a pithead ballot required before a national strike can be called. Meanwhile, the union could impose an overtime ban.

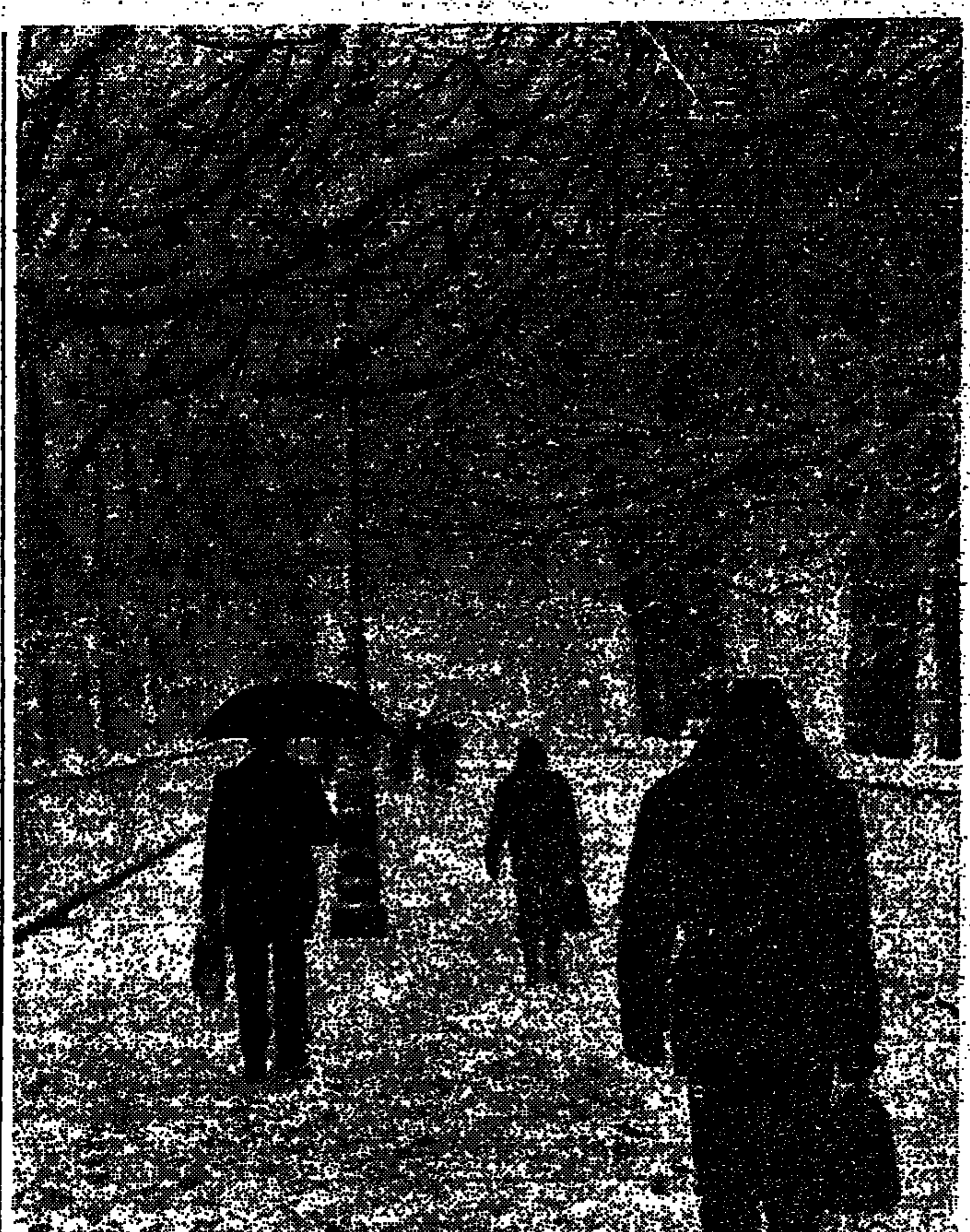
Mr Gormley made clear his own repugnance for a strike yesterday, adding: "As I go round the country, I get the feeling that the lads are in no mood for a strike."

That was almost certainly true until recently.

The coal board privately sounded out the president yesterday on whether a marginally improved offer would result in a recommendation for acceptance from the executive, but the "slight adjustments" indicated were not enough to convince the miner's leaders.

MINERS' BALLOT

A Scargill	138,803	70.3%
T Bell	34,075	17.3%
R Chadburn	17,979	9.1%
B Donaghy	6,442	3.3%



An early morning trudge to work through Highbury Fields in north London.

Unforecast blizzard worst for 14 years in the South

By Craig Seton and Richard Ford

Freezing weather conditions will continue across most of the United Kingdom for the rest of this week and more falls of heavy snow are expected in many areas towards the weekend.

That was the message last night after a day of chaos caused by sudden, heavy snow, unforeseen by the Meteorological Office, which left thousands of travellers stranded or severely delayed.

The worst snowfall in the South since the same day 14 years ago swept across an area from Bristol to East Anglia, as far north as Coventry and covering the whole of London and the Home Counties. There were also heavy falls in North Wales and other areas of the principality, although most northern parts of Britain escaped.

Thousands of commuters whose journeys were disrupted yesterday were given a warning that icy roads could be treacherous today and rail travellers could again face delays.

The Meteorological Office, admitting last night that it had got the intensity of the snowfalls wrong, insisted that transport authorities were given warnings of ice and snow on Monday afternoon. Privately there is some criticism of the authorities for not acting quickly enough to prevent the chaos.

However, the weather forecasters were criticized by British Rail for not giving enough warning or an idea of the severity of the snowfall. There were huge traffic jams on roads, motorways were affected by accidents, thousands of work bound commuters were delayed and flights from Heathrow and Gatwick were disrupted throughout the morning.

The London Weather Centre said last night that the forecast for today in the capital, Midlands, South-east England and central parts of northern England was for severe frost all day with mist patches in some places. The rest of the country could also expect frost and some snow showers.

A spokesman said there would be no thaw before the weekend and snow showers on coastal areas and higher ground during the next two days could develop into longer periods of snow. Temperatures were not expected to rise above freezing today and would fall to between −7C and −10C tonight.

The Weather Centre in London denied it was holding an inquiry into why it had not accurately predicted the severity of the snow.

With bookmakers slashing the odds on a white Christmas from 10 to 1 to 4 to 1, weather forecasters said the reason why Britain was shivering was a plunge of cold Arctic air from the North Pole.

Last night the RAC said highway authorities, responsible for gritting and salting roads and motorways, had been caught on the hop by the sudden snowfall. It warned motorists they they could face

Continued on back page, col 2

Every year we get this unpredictable weather...

SNOW CHAOS

Palace appeal for privacy of Princess

By a Staff Reporter

The Royal Family yesterday made clear its concern over intrusive photographic coverage of the private life of the Princess of Wales who feels, it was said, totally beleaguered.

Mr Michael Shea, the Queen's Press Secretary, invited to Buckingham Palace editors of national daily and Sunday newspapers, television and radio news, and the Press Association, to discuss the problem of the balance between press and public interest and the Royal Family, particularly the Princess, and their legitimate right to privacy.

All the editors, with the exception of Mr Kelvin MacKenzie, of *The Sun*, attended the meeting at which Mr Shea spoke of the anxiety of those who loved and cared for the Princess: she had not herself made any request.

No demands were made and no decisions taken collectively by the editors who later met the Queen. The immediate worry expressed was the failure by photographers and some editors to draw a distinction between the public activities of the Princess of Wales and her private life, especially at her home in Highgrove, Gloucestershire.

She had coped splendidly with her public duties. She had survived very well in the run-up to the engagement when the Palace was not able to provide any protection. It had been an extremely good 18 months with a great welcome and interest played by all the newspapers, serious and popular, and by television and radio.

The Princess of Wales had imagined that the pressures would ease somewhat after marriage. She welcomed the public photography but was increasingly despondent at the idea that she could not go outside her own front door without being photographed. There was considerable anxiety about the short-term strain on a girl of 20, expecting her first child, who had not been subject to the same public exposure since early childhood as other members of the Royal Family.

In the long term there was a concern that her present feeling of beleaguerment from a few intrusive photographers would mould her attitude and that of her husband when they were playing an even more important role in the life of the country. It would be a tragedy, it was felt, if her feeling that she could not go anywhere without being photographed led to a change in her attitude to the press.

Mr Shea made it clear there were no worries about the health of the Princess and as she hoped to accompany the Prince of Wales on many of his heavy list of engagements next spring, she was concerned not to let the people down.

Mr Shea said that he hoped that the former voluntary tradition of the press to leave the Royal Family at peace while they were at Sandringham over the Christmas holiday might be resumed this year.

Focus on the Princess, page 2
Leading article, page 11

Reagan team predicts huge new deficits

From Our Correspondent, Washington, Dec 8

President Reagan has been handed the grimmest economic news of his administration by his own forecasters, who now expect the United States deficit to soar to a record $109,000m (about £54,500m) in the 1982 fiscal year.

The figures, prepared by the Council of Economic Advisers and the Office of Management and Budget, confirm estimates of big new deficits which private forecasters have been making for months. They are putting renewed pressure on Mr Reagan to change his policies.

Figures leaked to the press and later confirmed by the White House show estimated deficits twice those predicted by the Administration in September and substantially higher than the $80,000m cited by the White House in its budget battle with Congress two weeks ago.

The new estimates project a deficit of $152,000m in 1983 and $162,000m in the 1984 fiscal year without any more government spending cuts or tax increases.

Deficits this size are bound to put renewed upward pressure on United States interest rates, which have been falling. Based on the new figures, Wall Street analysts say interest rates will begin climbing again by summer at the latest.

An Administration official said that if the new forecasts are correct, the Treasury will be forced to boost borrowings. "To the extent the 1982 deficit increases above the $43,000m predicted earlier, Treasury borrowing requirements will increase commensurately," Mr Roger Mehle, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, said.

Immediately the figures were released the White House issued a statement calling them preliminary working estimates, made at staff level. A spokesman said Mr Reagan had seen them and is to meet Mr David Stockman, his Budget Director, this afternoon to get a new overview on the budget and the projected deficits. "These deficit estimates are not finalized policy proposals."

Mr Reagan has repeatedly said he will not raise taxes to bring down the deficit and holds fast to his policy of cutting taxes to recharge the economy.

But the cuts he pushed through Congress in his recent economic recovery programme will result in lost revenues of more than $400,000m by 1986.

Critics of Mr Reagan's policies, the very ones who leaked the new deficit figures to the press, say the only way to get out of the red and bring interest rates down is to raise taxes.

Senate Republican leaders are trying to convince him to allow moderate to large tax increases in the new 1983 budget plan he submits to congress in January.

All work and no play ...

By Annabel Ferriman
Health Services Correspondent

Workaholics who devote almost all their time to their jobs run the risk of building up such tension and fatigue that they resort to alcohol, drugs, sex exploitation or gambling, it was said yesterday.

Professor Linford Rees, former Professor of Psychiatry at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, told a London symposium that some degree of stress was helpful.

Controlled, predictable stress, such as was found in sports, planned retirement and jogging came into this category. But unpredictable events, such as the loss of a close relative or getting sacked could cause a degree of stress that resulted in disease.

The adverse effects of stress in executives include loss of self-assurance, loss of confidence in subordinates, producing procrastination in decision making, inability to delegate properly and a tendency to become unnecessarily involved in minutiae.

Professor Rees said: "A vicious circle is created, responsibility is not delegated, no one is trusted, additional work needing more decisions, is thrust upon him, holidays are delayed or cancelled, and so sickness, absences, and over-activity is replaced by apathy, and depression, verbal output and alcohol intake increase, efficiency and effective application fail."

Professor Rees, who was addressing a meeting of the Stress Syndrome Foundation at the Institute of Directors, said that stress could bring on asthma, skin rashes, hay fever and ulcers. Half the people who developed ulcers were suffering stress at the onset of the disease and a third of those who developed asthma were under stress.

Europe loath to join US-Libya dispute

By David Cross

America's allies in Europe are anxious to maintain their distance from the increasingly bitter dispute between President Reagan and Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader.

The two are engaged in a war of words over American allegations that a Libyan assassination squad has been sent to Washington with orders to kill Mr Reagan and other senior United States officials.

According to diplomats in London and other European capitals, however, relations between most of them and Tripoli are better than they have been for some time, particularly on the economic front. As a result, the West Europeans are responding with a marked lack of enthusiasm to discreet soundings from Washington about possible joint economic sanctions against Libya.

Officials in Whitehall yesterday confirmed a report in this week's *Newsweek*, the American news magazine, that Washington was asking London and other West European capitals secretly for their views on the feasibility of joint action against Colonel Gaddafi.

The British Government's reluctance to support any action against Libya is predicated partly on the belief that economic sanctions are rarely effective and partly on the fear that a trade boycott would probably push Colonel Gaddafi further into the Soviet camp, while alienating moderate Arab states like Saudi Arabia and Jordan. This view appears to be shared by other European nations like France and West Germany.

Moreover, Britain and other European nations are benefiting from large increases in their exports to Libya. Last year, for example, British exports to Libya totalled some £288m, which represented an increase of about 25 per cent over 1979. Italian exports rose by a third between 1979 and 1980 to a total of some £1,280m.

Indeed, relations between Britain and Libya have warmed

US measures, page 6

Phone charges to rise

By Frances Williams

Telephone charges for 14 million domestic users are likely to rise by 30 per cent more than the rate of inflation, according to British Telecom. It attributes this to the Government's decision to license a private telephone network in competition with Telecom.

Mr Peter Benton, deputy chairman of British Telecom, said at a seminar in London on state industry finances and private capital that although competition would be very healthy for Telecom and was thus to be welcomed, it would cost the private customer more.

The proposed private network, named Mercury, which is to be set up by a consortium headed by Cable & Wireless, will link businesses in English cities. The Government has already given its consent and it is expected to be in operation by 1983.

Mercury will cream off much of British Telecom's highly profitable long-distance traffic. Telecom says it will therefore be forced to increase charges for services which at present make a loss, notably telephone rentals and public kiosk calls, to meet its financial target of a 5 per cent rate of return on assets. The increased charges will most of all hurt domestic customers, for whom the rental is often a high proportion of the final bill.

But business users will pay less in real terms (after taking account of inflation) because of competition, because the charges for long distance calls are likely to come down.

Mr Benton told the seminar audience that Telecom could overshoot its borrowing limit of £380m by some £50m this year although it would meet its financial target.

Conference report, page 14

'Times' chairman resigns

Sir Denis Hamilton has resigned from the chairmanship of Times Newspapers Holdings Ltd and will leave the Board at the end of the year. The directors have elected Mr Rupert Murdoch to the new chairman of the company.

Sir Denis said that he had originally intended to stay only till the acquisition by the News Corporation earlier this year was completed. He had been persuaded to stay on till the end of the year and he now retires with every confidence for the future of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* in the hands of the new proprietors.

Mr Murdoch paid tribute to Sir Denis Hamilton's years of service with the company and its predecessors and to the contribution he has made to *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*: "In the long history of these two great newspapers, no one stands above Sir Denis Hamilton for his untiring and courageous leadership. He has maintained and fostered the highest standards of independent and professional journalism."

He shaped our times, page 10

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Ford union chiefs vote for strike

The threat of a strike throughout the Ford Motor Company in Britain increased yesterday when senior shop stewards voted to recommend an all-out stoppage from January 5 (Donald Macintyre writes).

The decision came as Ford told its 54,000 manual workers in a special bulletin that it would "go out of business" unless costs were cut. The recommendation will go before meetings today at almost all the company's 24 plants, except those at Halewood, on Merseyside, where decisions in favour of a strike were taken at the weekend.

Mr Ronald Todd, national organizer of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said after yesterday's meeting of 180 plant works committee members that it had voted "overwhelmingly, with no abstentions, to enter into total dispute as from January 5".

New regulations for gas cars

As fire prevention officers tried yesterday to discover what caused a gas-powered car to explode in Yateley, Hampshire on Monday, new standards for gas fuelled motor vehicles and gas fired appliances in vehicles were being put before Parliament by Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport.

Most motor vehicles now being converted to gas should be able to meet the new requirements, which are based on current good engineering practice.

Some students' fees face cut

The Government announced yesterday that it is proposing to nearly halve the tuition fee for home students on first degree and other advanced courses next year, to £480. (Our Education Correspondent writes). That would not affect their fees paid in full.

However, it would reduce the incentive for institutions to admit more students than planned by the Government, as happens with present fee levels.

Army to lose 560 bandsmen

Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, confirmed in the Commons reply that the Army is to lose 560 of its bandsmen posts.

The reductions will not come into effect before 1984-85. Only two bands will disappear, those of the Royal Army Medical Corps and the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

Tory MP to retire

Mr Victor Goodhew, aged 62, Conservative MP for St Albans, said last night that he intends to retire at the next general election. He said he had twice undergone heart surgery in the past eight years. His majority in 1979 was 17,244.

Unisex lavatories

Westminster Council is to introduce Continental-style unisex public lavatories in the West End in an experiment aimed at cutting costs. They will cost 10p a time to use.

Defiant Tatchell will not stand as independent

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Peter Tatchell, the man at the centre of Labour's latest left-right drama, said yesterday he was confident he would remain Labour candidate for Bermondsey, south London, even if the party's national executive refused to endorse him.

After Monday's meeting of the executive's organization committee, when Mr Michael Foot won a preliminary non-endorsement of Mr Tatchell, there was speculation that the young Australian left-winger would contest an election against any official Labour replacement.

But he said in an independent radio phone-in programme yesterday: "There is no way that either myself or the local party members would leave the Labour Party, stand or work as independents.

"We are members of the Labour Party, and we are determined to stay members of the Labour Party." He added that he believed there was strong local support for his candidature despite recent events.

If the party were forced to conduct a new selection he was confident he would be "reselected", he said.

Mr Foot's case against Mr Tatchell has been based on the candidate's statements in favour of extra-parliamentary mobilization to challenge the Government's right to rule. Although several executive members find no grounds for complaint in Mr Tatchell's writings and views, the executive will, indeed, refuse endorsement.

One member, Mr Douglas Hoyle, the Warrington by-election victor, abstained in Monday's vote. But it is thought that he will join other members of the party's soft democratic left in supporting Mr Foot. Mr Tatchell's repudiation has now become a matter of party credibility.

Mr Tatchell yesterday spoke out against Mr Foot's stand, speaking to a "committed socialist" on the radio phone-in who said he intended to leave the party, Mr Tatchell said: "For heaven's sake, don't. That's exactly what some people want us all to do. We must not be frightened by the spectre of a new McCarthyism witchhunt in this party".

Mr Tatchell said that the action taken against him had not helped the party. He criticized a section of the party which, he said, in one breath preached tolerance and unity, and in the next damaged the party with its intolerance and divisiveness.

The new wings of the party, the hard left and the rest, yesterday continued to draw battle lines for the campaign ahead.

One hard-left member of the national executive said that Monday had been a day of shame for the Labour Party. He now intended to consolidate opposition to the anti-Tatchell forces.

The argument, and it is a valid one, is that there are many people in the Labour Party who have expressed identical views to those of Mr Tatchell. It is stated that Mr Tatchell has been made a scapegoat for the failings of the party, which could have cured its electoral malaise by campaigning on strong, left-wing policies passed by its conference.

Mr Foot's firm smack of leadership has put the hard-left on the spot. They have been outmanoeuvred by the soft left of the Tribune Group, by the centre and by the right, and they dare not now come out into the open with the bitter attacks on Mr Foot which they vent in private.

For by doing so they would be seen to be defying the leader they helped to elect and they could be accused of driving the party to electoral defeat.

Mr Foot has won himself the powerful position which he has sought since he replaced Mr James Callaghan. His supporters will expect him to make use of that strength in driving home the attack against the hard-left.

A resumed meeting of the organization committee today will give Mr Foot the opportunity sought by his backers. The agenda still contains a call to investigate ultra-left groups which have infiltrated the party, and Mr John Golding, MP for Newcastle under Lyme, who is on eof the proposers, said yesterday that he would accept an amendment to include all fringe groups.

Mr Golding and his allies favour proscription of Militant and the Trotskyists, but Mr Foot is against purging entire sections of the party.

Today's meeting of the organization committee will look at the membership application of Mr Tariq Ali, formerly of the revolutionary International Marxist Group. Mr Foot is expected to recommend rejection until Mr Ali can prove that he has changed his old political spots.

A briefing on 'Briefing'

Left-wing activists unite in print

By David Walker

One evening each month any curious visitor to the Greater London Council can see a group of youngish men and women in the office of Mr Kenneth Livingstone, the council leader, scissors and paste in hand.

They are the editorial collective—whose membership fluctuates but is based on a hard core of a dozen—of one of the most successful left-wing periodicals in the history of the Labour Party.

It is the chosen vehicle for Mr Peter Tatchell's rehearsal for his version of Labour politics and for Mr Tariq Ali's dramatic conversion to the Labour Party.

It is the publication that for the past 16 months has been naming Labour councillors, committee chairmen and MPs picked out for extinction. It is *London Labour Briefing*.

Briefing, 20 sides of A4 size paper, published each month, began life as the house journal of that loosely knit group of London socialists whose great achievement to date has been the catapulting of Mr Livingstone and two dozen loyal supporters to control of County Hall.

The journal is published by Mr Graham Bash from one of the far left's few outposts in east London, the Ilford South constituency. It circulates between 2,000 and 2,500 copies

Effort and intelligence comes from an inner circle which often meets at County Hall. Iits guiding spirit is Mr Jeremy Corbyn, aged 31, *Briefing*'s founder, an official of the National Union of Public Employees.

As Mr Corbyn told *The Times* recently, "the political importance of local government has grown enormously and far mre people, including those on the left, are interested". That conviction led 18 months ago to the founding of *Briefing*.

It is a vehicle not for ideological debate or, like *Militant*, for evangelism, but for the carriage of information between one group of activists and another. *Briefing* prints model resolutions, often to do with municipal affairs, which supporters then carry into local party policy.

Its flavour is probably best taken from the current (December) issue. Unlike much leftist Labour incunabula, it is literate and use of slogans is kept to a minimum. However, the front page carries an unsigned article under the rallying cry of Judges keep out.

The article is about Lord Denning and the Court of Appeal's verdict in the case brought against the GLC by the London Borough of Bromley over transport fares. It ends with a warning: "When Courts and Judges, with all their magisterial splendour, render themselves illegal in the eyes of the people, then they invite us—the moment we are strong enough—to sweep them away".

This edition also includes a parliamentary report by Mr Reg Race, Labour MP for Wood Green, who stormed out of Monday's Tribune Group meeting about Mr Tatchell.

There is Mr Tariq Ali's apologia, a criticism of government plans for London docklands, more detailed articles about jobs, low pay, the youth service, nuclear disarmament and women's rights.

A four-page pull-out includes a report on GLC matters by one of Briefing's editors, Miss Valerie Wise, the GLC councillor and doughter of the former Labour MP, Audrey Wise.

Its circulation is mainly within London, and especially within Brent, Haringey, Islington, Southwark and Lambeth. It has also recently become required reading among progressive Labour Party elements in other parts of the country.

And because of *Briefing*'s visibility, some London Labour MPs in the centre of the party have suggested that its circulation list provides a near guide to which Labour Party members ought to be purged or blocked from securing nominations to council or parliamentary elections.

Indeed, Mr Corbyn is well on his way to securing the parliamentary nomination for the Islington, North, constituency, where the elected Labour MP, Mr Michael O'Halloran, has joined the SDP.

Mr Corbyn and the Briefing editors would prove a much tougher obstacle than Mr Tatchell. Mr Corbyn, like Mr Livingstone, is no "entryist". He has been a Labour Party member since his youth.

The heavy snow clouds over the South and South-east seen yesterday morning from a meteorological satellite.

Thawing London's chaos

"Freezing tonight" was crayoned in large, black letters on the bulletin board at Scotland Yard's traffic control centre yesterday as the evening rush hour gathered momentum (Stewart Tendler writes).

Within hours what had been a chaotic morning had turned into a chaotic evening, with long lines of traffic crawling over black ice.

The board announced bleakly: "All areas of London suffer very bad road conditions. Very slow moving traffic." On the television monitors linked to 56 cameras above London junctions, the snow shone deep and crisp and even.

Each day an estimated 314,000 people travel to work in London by road on 166,700 vehicles ranging from buses to mopeds. The inappropriately named rush-hour normally lasts from 7 am to 10 am each morning. Yesterday it finished somewhere about midday, with some drivers having given up and gone back home.

The first warning of a heavy snowfall should have come to the traffic centre on the teleprinter from the Bracknell Weather Centre, in Berkshire, but yesterday morning no one was expecting anything of the kind. Supt Michael Guth, in charge of the control room, first discovered the situation when he threw open the curtains at home in Kent.

"We were caught on the hop", he said.

Once in the warmth of the traffic centre on the first floor of Scotland Yard, he and his men began trying to sort out the developing problems. The traffic centre acts both as a clearing house for London's traffic police and supervisor of the computer system which controls 1,022 junctions with automatic signals.

The centre has links with traffic motor cycles out on the roads.

The centre *is divided* into two areas, central traffic control, which acts as the collator and coordinator, and area traffic control, which monitors the screens.

Princess braves snow to visit local school

The Princess of Wales fought her way through heavy snow yesterday to keep an appointment with 330 children at St Mary's Junior School, in Tetbury, Gloucestershire.

The Princess, who is expecting a baby in June, drove through driving snow from her home, Highgrove, just over a mile away.

About 100 people braved the conditions, the first fall of the winter in Gloucestershire, to cheer her as she drove through the school gates to the main building. She went straight into morning assembly, where the entire school sang two carols, "While Shepherds Watched", and "O Come All Ye Faithful". After assembly she visited the school's 11 classrooms

☐ It was the pages in the *Daily Mirror* and *Daily Star* (shown below), and another in the *Sun* which helped to precipitate the request from Buckingham Palace yesterday (as reported on page one) to respect the privacy of the Princess of Wales when she is not fulfilling public engagements (David Nicholson-Lord writes).

Mr Michael Molloy, editor of the *Daily Mirror*, which published the shopping pictures, described the Palace's request as "perfectly reasonable". He added: "It would be foolish to give an undertaking, because no one can ever give a guarantee of anything. But we will respect the request they have made, as we would with any other individual."

Mr Kelvin MacKenzie, of the *Sun*, who did not attend the meeting at the Palace, was not available for comment

Mr Lloyd Turner, editor of the *Daily Star*, said: "We will be taking a very hard look at any pictures supplied to us in the future." "We must take notice of what the Palace has said: It is a matter of concern that the Princess should have a private as well as a public life."

He said the pictures of the Prince and Princess kissing were supplied by a freelance and he decided to use them after verifying with Buckingham Palace that there would be no objection.

According to Mr Andy Kyle, the freelance photographer who sold the pictures to the *Star*, the pictures were taken from the road outside Highgrove, where passing motorists coud see the royal group. He said the group, which included Prince Andrew, were fully aware of the photographers' presence before they began kissing and cuddling.




The Princess of Wales visiting St Mary's Junior School at Tetbury.

But Mr Kyle, whose clients include magazines like *Paris Match* and the *German Bunte* and who can expect to earn up to £2,000 for his photographs on Monday, said his colleagues were often forced into "unofficial" pictures

The Press Council has consistently condemned invasions of privacy. It did so in 1964 when Mr Ray Bellisario took secret pictures of the Queen and Princess Margaret. In 1976 it gave a warning that public interest must not be a "prurient or morbid curiosity".

☐ Mrs Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis is suing for her privacy in a repetition of the suit she brought against Mr Ron Galella, a New York photographer, 10 years ago, it was disclosed yesterday. She claims Mr Galella has violated an order to stay at least 25 feet away from her.

Leading article, page 11

The controversial pages in the *Daily Star* this week and the *Daily Mirror* in November.

Cell door Communion rejected

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Robert Mawdsley, a four-time killer, who was refused permission to attend Wakefield prison chapel services, has rejected the offer of Holy Communion through the caged inner door of his cell.

He has told Lord Avebury in a letter that Father John Galvin, the Roman Catholic chaplain, would have been separated from him by iron bars and the sacred Communion bread (the consecrated host) would have to be passed through the wire mesh at the front.

Mawdsey is one of three prisoners who have been in solitary confinement for at least two and a half years, or three and a half years in his case.

Having killed a man in Wood Green, north London, in March, 1974, for no reason, he was found guilty of manslaughter, but with diminished responsibility, and sent to Broadmoor. In 1977 he and another man killed a third inmate.

☐ Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, confirmed yesterday that Sir Thomas Hetherington, the Director of Public Prosecutions, had indicated that no criminal proceedings were justified over the clash between prison officers and inmates in D wing at Wormwood Scrubs, London, on August 31, 1979.

But in a written Commons answer he said that a report by Mr Keith Gibson, south-east regional director of the prison service, should be published soon.

☐ Supporters of Mr Whitelaw rallied to his defence yesterday after attacks on the Government's alleged failure to tackle the prison crisis.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk and chairman of the all-party Penal Affairs Group, said Mr Whitelaw had said all the right thinigs, but when it came to action the Government lacked the political will and courage.

But Mr John Wheeler, Conservative MP for the City of Westminster, Paddington, said he was pleased with the response.

The Government Reply to the Fourth Report from the Home Affairs Committee, Session 1980-1981, HC 412 The Prison Services. Cmd 8446, Stationary Office, £2.30).

RESTRICTED MAPS 'IN IRA HANDS'

Restricted maps used by security forces have been found on the edge of a Belfast IRA stronghold, an Ulster "loyalist" claimed yesterday. The maps, showing flight paths and security checkpoints in the province, were produced by Mr Sammy Doyle, a member of the Ulster Loyalist Democratic Party, the political wing of the Ulster Defence Association.

Mr Doyle, who is fighting a Belfast city council by-election today, demanded an inquiry, and said the maps, which he believed were dumped by the IRA, were found in an unoccupied house near the republican Ardoyne district.

An Army spokesman said: "It would appear that these maps are restricted. They are used daily by any members of the security forces. They are not classified as secret

☐ Mrs Norah Bradford, widow of the Rev Robert Bradford, the murdered MP, will accompany three Ulster Unionist politicians, including the Rev Ian Paisley, to America on an anti-IRA tour next month.

SEWERAGE MEN MAY ACCEPT 9pc

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Britain's 32,000 water and sewerage workers are to be urged by union leaders to accept a 9.1 per cent pay offer agreed with the employers in six hours of talks last night.

The offer, similar to that rejected by the miners, will increase basic earnings by between £6.50 and £7.15 a week. Under the deal, holiday entitlement will be increased and there will be rises in shift payments.

At present, average weekly earnings for water workers, including overtime, are about £120.

Mr Edmund Newall, of the General and Municipal Workers Union and chief negotiator for the four water unions, said last night: "Given the general climate at the moment, I think the membership would be prepared to endorse the trade union side's recommendation to accept the offer, although I do not think there will be a resounding majority in favour."

13% Whitehall claim

☐ The nine Civil Service unions representing 530,000 white collar staff yesterday lodged with the Government a 13 per cent pay claim from next April, linked with a minimum increase of £12.50 a week. leaders yesterday was a compromise between unions who wanted to go for percentage increases and those in favour of a flat rate rise.

The main pressure for a flat rate claim came from the largest union, the Civil and Public Services Association.

The Council of Civil Service Unions, which has submitted the claim on behalf of the nine, told the Government it hoped for early negotiations.

The claim has gone forward while an independent inquiry on a new pay system for the Civil Service is still taking evidence.

Science report

New study of atomic structure of metals

By the Staff of "Nature"

The first results from a new British scientific facility, the Daresbury Synchrotron Radiation Source, were published recently in *Nature*.

The facility has been developed as a powerful new source of ultra-violet light and X-rays. By examining how those X-rays are absorbed by certain metals, a team of scientists has provided a basis for considerably improved models of the atomic structures of metals.

Any charged particle (an electron, for example) that undergoes acceleration will generate electromagnetic radiation, such as radio waves, visible and ultra-violet light and X-rays.

When the particles are travelling close to the speed of light in the presence of a strong magnetic field, they spiral along the direction of the field and in the process produce a highly characteristic spectrum of electromagnetic radiation.

Astronomers have traced the magnetic fields of other galaxies with the help of that "synchrotron radiation".

Their more earthbound cousins, the particle physicists, are also familiar with synchrotron radiation as an unwelcome side-effect of their efforts to accelerate charged particles to extremely high velocities.

The particle physicists would much prefer the particles to spend their energy entirely in their forward motion rather than frittering it away in spectacular but (to them) useless radiations.

But there are others for whom synchrotron radiation is an extremely valuable commodity, and it is for them that the Science and Engineering Research Council has provided the new Synchrotron Radiation Source at Daresbury.

The source consists of a circular tunnel into which can be injected fast-moving electrons. Magnets in the tunnel provide a powerful circular magnetic field, which is used to guide and accelerate the electrons to even higher energies.

A team of scientists at Daresbury, headed by Dr G. N. Greaves, has now published the first practical results from the new source using a technique forbiddingly known as X-ray Absorption Near Edge Spectroscopy, or XANES, for short.

Source: *Nature*, Nov 12 (vol 294, p139) 1981.

BLOWN FUSE HELD UP APT RUN

By Ronald Faux

The Advanced Passenger Train (APT) that failed to tilt during its return journey to Glasgow on Monday, scattering crockery across one coach, had "blown a fuse", a British Rail official said yesterday. The Breakdown, which came after a highly successful inaugural run from Glasgow to London, was deeply disappointing.

"A circuit breaker operated, and in the few seconds the train took to slow down there was some difficulty, but no serious damage was done and no one was injured", he said.

Blown circuit breakers were not unusual on electric locomotives and technicians were trying to discover why it happened. The APT, which travels along conventional rails at unconventional speeds, will make its second passenger-carrying run from Glasgow today. It is due to enter regular weekday service on January 11.

The circuit break caused an interruption of "domestic" power to six of the coaches as the express was travelling at 100 miles an hour north of Penrith, in Cumbria.

After engineers had worked on the fault one coach still refused to tilt completely and passengers were advised to sit in other parts of the train.

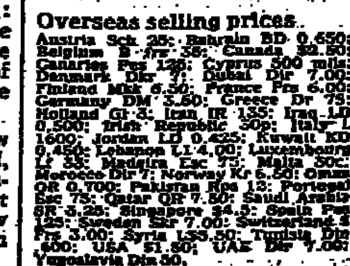
☐ The ill fated second run was held up on Monday night to let Isla St Clair, the BBC's *Generation Game* personality, get off (the Press Association reports).

The return run from Euston to Glasgow stopped abruptly at Penrith, in the Lake District, at the suggestion, Miss St Clair said, of the APT design team on board.

At Euston she was surrounded by the team. "They said, 'Where are you going', and I said, 'To Penrith', and they said, 'That's wonderful, we'll drop you off'.

"I said, 'You must be joking', but on we went and they dropped me off."

British Rail said yesterday that they had been told the stoppage was for technical reasons. To let Miss St Clair leave would have been "highly unofficial". He though an internal inquiry was almost certain to follow.



Overseas selling prices. Austria Sch 25; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 36; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 500 mils; Denmark Dkr 7; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 6.50; France Frs 6.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 75; Holland Gl 3; Iran IR 135; Iraq LD 0.500; Irish Republic 30p; Italy L 1600; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 6.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 13; Portugal Esc 75; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 5.25; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 7.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS3.50; Tunisia Din 600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Two Ulster students released

Two of four student union officials from Ulster, held by police under the Prevention of Terrorism Act since Monday night were released yesterday.

The four, were taken off a Belfast-bound aircraft at Ringway airport, Manchester, while returning from the weekend National Union of Students Conference in Blackpool, where they were said to have addressed a meeting on peace and democracy in Ireland.

Yesterday police announced that all four were being released, but within an hour they had changed their minds and released only two. Police said they were considering applying to the Home Secretary for a five-day extension of the detention period, and for an exclusion order which would prevent the men from reentering Britain.

Hikers join in search

Hikers were asked yesterday to join a moorland search for a Derbyshire boy who has been missing for a week in the Peak District. Robert Clarke, aged 13 disappeared after a family argument at his home in Tideswell.

Police said that only experienced hikers should offer their help, because of the biting cold and the rugged terrain. There were 45 officers searching the area, using tracker dogs.

Attackers leave pony in agony

Police were hunting yesterday for attackers who hammered a screwdriver deep into a pet pony's head in a field at Dunstable, Bedfordshire. The blade narrowly missed the animal's brain and a veterinary surgeon was able to save it.

The pony, owned by a Dunstable family, was left in agony with the screwdriver embedded three inches into her skull just above the eyes. A police spokesman said: "Anyone who would do that kind of thing to an animal must be sick".

Father abducts two children



Elizabeth von Graevenitz, aged five, whose German-American father, Mr Rudolph von Graevenitz, aged 47, has taken her and her brother Christian, aged two, to America. Their mother spoke yesterday of her "secret nightmare" coming true when her estranged husband telephoned on Sunday to say the children were with relatives in the United States. The boy recently left hospital after an operation, his mother, a nurse, said yesterday.

Jobless scheme faces disruption

Two Civil Service unions plan to disrupt a government move to introduce voluntary registration for unemployed people early next month, because they claim it would lead to more unemployed having their benefit stopped (Our Labour Staff writes).

The unions are planning to block an experiment in 20 unemployment offices, which the Government will use to prepare the nationwide scheme. Unemployed people will have to undergo what the unions describe as "a new stringent test" before they can claim benefit.

Davina Sheffield to marry

Miss Davina Sheffield, a former friend of the Prince of Wales, and once hotly tipped to marry him, is to marry Mr Jonathan Morley, aged 40, a divorced man with two children, at Witney register office, Oxfordshire, on December 21. Miss Sheffield, aged 30, lives at Ramsden, near Witney. Her fiance, who was formerly married to a daughter of Sir Max Aitken, is a London commodity broker.

Harmony restored

On the eve of an industrial tribunal hearing, dispute about the dismissal of Mr Keith Rhodes as organist and choirmaster of Bradford cathedral has been settled by the introduction of the Bishop of Bradford, Geoffrey Paul.

Test fee may rise

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, announced yesterday that he was consulting interested organizations about increasing the driving test fee from £10.30 to £13.

Fewer teachers than expected to lose their jobs

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Big cuts in education, particularly in staffing, will have to be made in 1982-83 but they will not be nearly as bad as feared, a confidential Department of Education and Science paper suggests.

The DES paper which sets out in detail the implications for education of the Government's revised expenditure plans for 1982-83, announced last week, is due to be discussed by local authority and DES officials at a meeting today of the joint Government-local authority expenditure steering group on education (ESGE).

The Government's revised plans for total local authority expenditure next year are based on the assumption that £9,190m will be spent on education, that is £288m more than originally planned, though still about 1 per cent less in real terms (after allowing for inflation) than the estimated current level of local authority education expenditure.

The paper suggests various ways in which that "extra" £288m might be spent to ease the planned run-down of the education service in certain areas. Part of that run-down is in respect of the expected drop in total pupil numbers of about 3 per cent between this year and next.

The biggest increase in original planned expenditure proposed by the DES is in respect of school teachers, which it suggests should go up by £60m.

That will save 5,000 jobs next year, but it will still mean that some 13,000 jobs will have to go, even after allowing for the employment of 2,000 more teachers under the £50m scheme for additional education for 16-19-year-olds.

The DES proposals assume that a further 15,000 teachers' jobs would be lost in 1983-84, followed by a further 10,000 in 1984-85, meaning a total reduction of 38,000, of 9 per cent, over the three years from the present estimated total of 418,000 full-time teachers in England. About 20,000 jobs have been shed over the past two years.

The DES acknowledges that some of the job losses will have to be compulsory. It suggests that the cost of redundancies and premature retirements next year could be as much as £20m.

While in comparison with government plans local authorities are overspending on teachers, they appear to be substantially underspending on books and equipment. Spending per pupil, which was down by about 5 per cent in 1979-80, was down again last year by 2½ per cent for primary pupils and 4.2 per cent for secondary pupils.

The DES is concerned that schools are becoming increasingly dependent on voluntary contributions, and that they may have increasing difficulties in replacing stocks of old books, and in providing necessary scientific equipment.

It proposes that £20m extra should be spent on books and equipment to bring the level of provision back to those of 1978-79.

For advanced further education, the DES proposes tha an additional £15m be spent between now and 1983-84 for a "more orderly rundown of provision.

Students' tuition fees account for about a quarter of the total income for advanced further education. There is therefore a strong incentive for institutions and authorities to increase their student intake, the DES says. This year's intake appeared to be 10 per cent up on last year.

The Government is now planning to halve the real value of fees next year in order to reduce that incentive "in the interests of securing a more orderly rationalization of higher education provision". The savings would be ploughed back into the total for advanced further education.

In non-advanced further education, the DES proposes that an extra £35m be spent next year in addition to the extra £50m for 16-19-year-olds. That would mean an increase of about 1 per cent compared with 1980-81, but a reduction in the average expenditure a student because of increased numbers



King of Beasts: Raz-a-ma-Taz, a 13-month-old cross-bred steer, which was judged Supreme Champion at the Royal Smithfield Show at Earls Court, London, yesterday, with the trophy and his owner, Mr James McKechnie, Renfrewshire.

Jail for a left-wing 'hit squad'

From Our Correspondent, Manchester

A college lecturer and eight students who formed themselves into a left-wing "hit squad" and went looking for right-wing rivals were sent to prison at Manchester yesterday.

Judge Gerrard told them: "I must make it clear to you that this country will not tolerate conduct like yours.—Russia or other countries maybe, But not this one."

The nine had pleaded not guilty to kidnapping a youth aged 16 in Rochdale, and the prosecution offered no evidence on that charge. But they admitted possessing offensive weapons when they bundled the youth into a van and made him reveal the names of National Front members living in the town.

The weapons included a two-foot baton studded with nails, a sledge hammer, a length of iron tubing and a cosh.

In the dock were John Penney, aged 28, a sociology lecturer, of Northwich, and Brian Broadley, aged 21, of Bolton; Michael Butroyd, aged 31, of Stockport; Robert Piatt, aged 27, of Stockport; Stephen Cooper, aged 24, of Withenshawe, Manchester; Mark Kent, aged 22, of Macclesfield; and Paul Hallatt, aged 20, Stephen Tilzey, aged 23, and David Smith, aged 23, all of Hulme, Manchester.

Another student, Michelle Mole, aged 18, of Littleborough, Lancashire, denied both charges and was discharged after the Crown offered no evidence.

Mr Anthony Hammond, for the prosecution, said the accused travelled to Rochdale from Manchester Polytechnic after Michelle Mole claimed that she had been "hassled; insulted and abused" by National Front members in the town.

Passing sentence, the judge said he was appalled at the squad's conduct. "The weapons you took with you were quite dreadful and capable of inflicting the most serious injuries, indeed of killing in some cases."

Secret battle looms over missile force

By Peter Hennessy

At a secret session this afternoon in Commons Committee Room 16 the opening exchanges will take place in what promises to be a classic Westminster-Whitehall battle and one of the most important tests of backbench power in recent times.

The matter at issue is the Ministry of Defence's £1,000m Chevaline improvement to the Polaris strategic missile force. Nearly eight years after its development was authorized by ministers (Parliament was not told about it until 1980), the system has still to work.

The next test will take place early in the new year off Cape Canaveral, Florida. The project's controllers are hoping that at long last the warheads in the weapon's "front end" will separate in the manner required to get them through the Russian's anti-ballistic missile screen around Moscow.

Chevaline is regarded in Whitehall as a textbook case in how not to go about things both in terms of fixing operational requirements and going it alone without the Americans in the first place, and keeping a grip on costs thereafter.

But the dilemma facing MPs on the all-party Public Accounts Committee as they assemble this afternoon is the nature of the confidential memorandum prepared for them on Chevaline by the ministry. Insiders who have seen it say that from the way it has been drafted you would think the project was a triumph not just of high technology but, after initial setbacks, of financial control.

Reformists inside Whitehall tend to feel that if the PAC fails to unpack the elements in the sorry saga of Chevaline, the ministry will have nothing to fear in future from the Commons premier select committee, whatever mistakes are made in weapons procurements, large or small.

In personality terms this afternoon's hearing will see the most accomplished select committee performer in the permanent secretaries' club in Sir Frank Cooper, the Ministry of Defence's accounting officer, pitted against the terrier-like Mr Joel Barnett, Labour MP for Heywood and Royton, chairman of the PAC, Chief Secretary to the Treasury 1974-79 and a skilled accountant who can smell a dubious financial case a mile off.

When it comes to ammunition, Sir Frank's first salvo will be the Chevaline memorandum prepared for the PAC by Mr Michael Gainsborough, Director of Finance and Administration (Strategic Systems) in the ministry. The gravamen of his case is an admission that the original 1974 figure for the cost of Chevaline was, at £240m, a serious underestimate.

By 1977 the figure was more than twice that in real terms. But since then the financial management of the project, the argument runs, has been impeccable. Though inflation has lifted the bill to £1,000m, there has been no increase in real terms.

Mr Barnett's ammunition will in the main be the breifing material supplied to him by the accountants of the Exchequer and Audit Department, who have been filleting the ministry's Chevaline files since August.

The most dramatic piece of public evidence was provided by Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, in Warrington during the recent by-election. To the horror of ministry officials, who had not breifed him on what they reckon he should have said, he admitted the cost of Chevaline had "gone bananas". Sir Frank will rue that moment of candour this afternoon.

Now that Whitehall has faced, in private at least, the failures of Chevaline and learnt the lessons, the nub of the PAC investigation is whether the ministry can be persuaded to come clean in public.

Heseltine fears defeat in courts

By David Walker

Local councils may escape a £300m penalty for overspending because Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, fears the courts would not support him if he was challenged on its legality.

Unless he can rescue the local Government Finance Bill, now stalled in the House of Commons because of Conservative backbench opposition, Mr Heseltine will have no basis for his penalty other than a law last year, about which his officials are extremely dubios.

The local Government Finance Bill contains a crucial clause 12 which was specially written to cover the penalty retrospectively. It was included in the Billbecause officials were anxious about the successful challenge by six London boroughs to Mr Heseltine's power to withhold grants.

That case succeeded because Mr Heseltine was held in the Court of Appeal to have acted illegally under transitional arrangements in operation between the abandonment in 1979 of the support grant system and introduced by the Conservative's Local Govenment,—planning and Land Act, 1980,

However, civil servants are not convinced that the 1980 Act covers Mr Heseltine's £300m penalty. Originally intending to cut £450m from councils' grants in 1981-82, Mr Heseltine announced last September that he was going to withhold a total of £300m from councils that had failed to cut their spending in accordance with government targets.

Originally the Department of the Environment had planned to issue a "supplementary" rate support grant report, probably at the same time as it announces the rate support for next year, on December 21. The penalty would then have been subtracted from the fortnightly payments of grant to councils during the rest of the financial year.

But the threat of several of the larger Labour councils challenging that move, with the case winding its way at length through the courts to the House of Lords, stirred officials to make their legal position cast-iron; hence clause 12.

Now that the Bill has stalled, Mr Heseltine faces great pressure of time. The later he leaves a final decision on the penalty, the bigger the cut certain councils have to make before March 31. A decision left any later than January will throw the finances of certain councils into chaos.

Mr Heseltine is considering whether to reintroduce the Local Government Finance Bill shorn of all its controversial clauses to do with rates and referendums.

Left aim to nationalize farmland

By John Young
Agriculture Correspondent

Left-wing members of the Labour Party National Executive Committee are expected to press for a commitment to the nationalization of agricultural land to be included in the party's mext election manifesto.

The belief that public ownership is the only way to make more land available for letting gained ground yesterday after the committee had formally rejected proposals put forward by the Country Landowners Association and the National Farmers' Union.

Asked if nationalization was likely to be included in the manifesto, Miss Joan Maynard, chairman of the NEC's agricltural subcommittee, replied: "I certainly hope so".

Mr Gavin Strong, an opposition front bench spokesman on agriculture, said a commitment to nationalize all farmland might be going too far. But the party might wish to show that state ownership, as opposed to state management, could lead to happy and successful tenancies.

The committee's description of the landowners' and farmers' proposals as "unaceptable" and "irresponsible" makes it almost certain that the Government will abandon its plans to amend the Agricultural (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act to try to ease the shortage of farms for rent.

There is general agreement that the Act, which gave childrenof tenant farmers the right to inherit their parents' tenancies, has made it increasingly difficult for young people from outside to enter farming.

But there is a wide divergence of views on how to tackle the matter

The CLA, with the not altogether wholehearted support of the NFU, which has many tenant farmer members, had proposed that the succession right should apply only to existing tenancies and not to new ones. It also wanted changes in the rent system to correct what it termed anomalies.

Yesterday Labour's national executive said that the proposals would not ensure that more land became available for letting, and would create two types of tenancies, those with protected succession and those without. They were also likely to increae rents, which the NEC considered were already too high.

Last night Sir Richard Butler, president of the NFU, and Lord Middleton, president of the CLA, described the NEC's rejection as an extremely disappointing and negative reaction. "Unless legislation is implemented, the tenancy system, which has served agriculture so well, will inevitably die", they said.

Howe sees progress in right direction: Heath wants veer

ECONOMY

A prospect of public expenditure falling as a proportion of gross domestic product and the hope that Britain would soon move to conditions where the prospect for jobs should begin to improve were offered by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

In the debate on his economic package announced last week, Sir Geoffrey Howe was greeted with shouts of "When?" as he suggested the prospect for jobs might soon improve. Some of the early signs could already be seen, he said, with short-time working down to a quarter of what it had been at the start of the year, with overtime increased and vacancies also up. He did not reply when many Labour MPs shouted: "Where?"

Listing further moderation in pay settlements, more competitiveness from British industry and other indicators, the Chancellor said the picture was one of progress in the right direction. The Government's plans were designed to further progress.

Mr Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister, in a speech critical of Government policy, said he was not asking for a U-turn but a veer by the Government on to the right kerb. The United Kingdom should join the European Monetary System.

Mrs Shirley Williams, in her first speech since her victory for the SDP at Crosby, said every apprenticeship and training place in the country should be used.

Sir Geoffrey Howe moved: That this House approves the statement made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on December 2; welcomes the Industry Act forecast for 1982 of lower inflation and rising output; approves the provision of extra resources for employment and training measures particularly for the young; supports the Government's decision to maintain the real value of retirement pensions and to continue the Christmas bonus for pensioners; and endorses the decision to allocate extra money for capital investment by nationalized industries and for the defence programme."

He said five years ago the last Labour Government abandoned its economic policy and placed the management of Britain's finances in the hands of the IMF. In Labour's case that was no doubt a prudent decision, but this Government did not intend to follow that example, nor did it need to.

This was not the moment to decide the overall balance between spending on one hand and taxation and borrowing on the other. That must wait until near the time of next year's budget because only then would they have a clear view of the revenue prospects for next year and be better able to judge the proper balance between expenditure and revenue.

They did not want to saddle the private sector with an excessive level of interest rates, but at this stage he was neither threatening an increase nor promising relaxation in the burden of taxation.

It must be evident to all, save those who would not see, that the Government had responded in a realistic way to changed circumstances. From the outset, it was not looking for a cut in public expenditure, but an increase in the total.

Public spending had been raised by nearly £5,000m and some of that increase represented a considerable response to what must be considered undesirable developments such as overspending by local authorities.

There was also the growing Soviet threat to Nato so the United Kingdom must continue to play a responsible part in the alliance and would do so.

It was right those people in work should be asked to contribute to giving the jobless a better chance. Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, would shortly be announcing radical changes in the employment programmes with emphasis on training for the young. The total cost of these programmes next year would be almost £3,000m — £800m more than originally planned.

It is hard (he said) to present these decisions as the decisions of an inflexible Government. The windy rhetoric and instant and unthinking denunciation to which Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on financial affairs, resorted in his reaction to my statement may help to his view to deflect attention from the battle of Bermondsey, but it does him little credit and helps the unemployed and the country at large not at all.

The nationalized industries had been given increased provision with their external financing limits being set £1,300m higher than in the previous plan. This year and next they could expect investments by these industries at a higher level than in any year since 1976.

The main cause of this year's increase in total social security spending had been the need to pay for pensions.

The Government intended to increase all benefits by what they expected to be the increase in the RPI by November, 1982. The final figure would not be determined until the spring of next year. The present estimate was 10 per cent.

But the Government did not propose to make good the shortfall in short-term benefits against inflation in the year ending November, 1981. The effect would be to save £85m in the first year and £180m in a full year. On all these matters, final decisions would be taken as usual next spring.

The most costly and important commitment in the whole social security programme was the undertaking to maintain the real value of retirement pensions. That was a commitment the Government were determined to fulfil. It was because of the high priority the Government gave to this that it had to look for savings elsewhere.

Retirement pensions had been wholly price protected and would be higher in real terms in November, 1982, than in November, 1978. That made a sharp contrast to the way pensioners were treated by the Labour Party. (Cries of "rubbish")

Let us hear no more talk (he said) of a Scrooge-like Chancellor, particularly from the wealth-like figures opposite—the ghosts of Christmas past.

The plans announced would set public spending over the next year at about the same level in real terms as the current year, but with the renewal of growth in the economy there was a real prospect that as a percentage of GDP, public expenditure would once again begin to fall and that should be welcomed, even by Labour MPs.

I have in mind (he said) Mr Roy Jenkins, the still-exiled Ayatollah of the Social Democrats who in a famous phrase remarked that excessive public expenditure, not effectively above the present level, would endanger the value of a plural society. We should take that warning to heart.

Now was not the time to set the scale of public borrowing for the next financial year. But it must be modest enough to offer a prospect of lower interest rates. It must be within the framework of monetary policy which took proper account of the exchange rate and the need to maintain a steady but not excessive downward pressure on the growth of the monetary variables.

While the forecasts were of a continued rise in unemployment, nobody in any part of the political spectrum had offered the prospect of an early return to what they used to think of as full employment.

The National Institute who proposed a reflationary package of £5,000m predicted that on the most optimistic assumptions, that reflation would lead to only a 150,000 to 300,000 reduction in registered unemployed over a five-year period.

That was the limited extent to which the old-fashioned cure of fixed reflation matched up to what was required in the present world as opposed to the world in which the veterans on the Labour benches had learnt their economics.

The unemployment of today reflected the policies of earlier years. Before long they should begin to move into conditions where the prospects for jobs should improve. Indeed it was possible already to see some of the early signs. Short-time working was down and overtime had increased correspondingly. The number of vacancies was up.

The number of unemployed next year, excluding school leavers, was predicted as 2.9 million, compared with 2.6 million this year. That did not mean there would be 300,000 more unemployed this time next year as the figures were the average over two years and indicated a substantial reduction or even a flattening out in the rate of unemployment over the next 12 months.

Industrial production was on an upward trend: so too was manufacturing output and so too was the gross national product. That trend was likely to continue next year.

Inflation was expected to come down to 10 per cent and would still be falling in a year's time. If this progress could be maintained together with more modest wage settlements at a time when world commodity prices looked like moving in the country's favour, there was no reason why the recovery of profitability of private industry, which was the precondition to investment and general improvement, should not go hand in hand with a significantly lower level of inflation by the end of next year.

Pay increases in the past year were about half as high as in the year before. There was an encouraging sign of further moderation in the present round and it was crucial that this should be maintained.

Productivity was up and output per head in manufacturing industry in the second quarter of this year was five per cent higher than six months before. The CBI expected a rise of ten per cent by the end of the present year.

As a result, British industry was becoming more competitive. So far this year it had regained at least 10 per cent and was beginning to price itself back into business around the world. Under the new loan guarantee scheme more than 1,500 businesses had been helped.

Exports appeared to be holding up well this year in difficult world trading conditions. For the future the prospect for exports looked good for chemicals, electronics, coal and petroleum products. Engineering export orders in the last quarter were 14 per cent up and orders and output at home were picking up as well.

Private sector housing starts were up over 40 per cent in the year to the third quarter of 1981 and construction industry orders as a whole were up 10 per cent on the second half of last year.

An objective look at these indicators showed that the picture was of real progress in the right direction. (Labour laughter and Conservative cheers.) These improvements were not the hothouse product of any short-sighted switch of policy. They resulted from real and sustainable progress in the economy; changes which the whole House knew to be long overdue.

Even in today's hostile world the prospect of completing the reversal of Britain's economic decline was before them. The Government's plans were designed to further that progress.

Shore: Britain on road to ruin

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab), moved an Opposition amendment to make the motion read: "That this House rejects the statement made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on December 2; deplores the failure to make good the 2 per cent shortfall on unemployment benefit and other allowances; expenses its grave concern that the measures outlined by the Chancellor of the Exchequer will further increase unemployment, raise the level of prices and industrial costs and place still heavier burdens on local authorities; and calls upon the Government to abandon its totally discredited medium term financial strategy and to initiate new policies designed to increase output and reduce unemployment"

He said that the Chancellor said nothing in amplification and justification of his measures which will cause anyone to revise the condemnatory judgment they had already formed.

The Government had succeeded in reducing Britain's annual wealth creation and gross national product by 7½ per cent in less than 16 years. It had slashed industrial output by no less than 16 per cent and had increased unemployment by 1,700,000.

It had done all this at at time when Britain, in an energy-starved world, had become self-sufficient in North Sea oil. To have done all this was an achievement of such astonishing magnitude that, whatever else might happen or befall, the Prime Minister and the Chancellor in their political lives had marked for themselves a place in the nation's history which time would never erase. The long-suffering people would neither forgive nor forget when the next election was called.

The Chancellor had not yet grown weary of ill-doing. Last Wednesday, trapped in his own spiral of economic decline, he had made certain within the limits of his Government's action that no economic recovery could now take place. One per cent growth was the prospect.

There was the meanness and immorality of the Government's treatment of the poorer sections of the community. Unemployment pay was to be cut by 2 per cent against a rise in this year's cost of living. The real level of the student grant was the lowest for 20 years.

The Chancellor had both increased public expenditure as a proportion of the gross national product and at the same time increased taxation to levels far higher than those which existed when he came to office.

The most disgraceful aspect was the unfairness of the Government's policy to force the poor to pay for tax cuts for the rich. (Labour cheers.) What kind of Government was it that demanded sacrifices from the nation and then made sure those sacrifices fell least on those who could bear them most and most on those who could bear them least?

What did that kind of brutality to the incomes of the poor do for the social adhesion of the country?

The whole economic doctrine of the Government was the belief in controlling the money supply by fixing for a four-year period the quantitative limits for the growth of sterling M3 and for the same period the progressive reduction of public borrowing so that the PSBR would shrink year by year.

From the first day he was appointed to his shadow post, he had never wavered in his rejection and contempt for that half-baked economic theory.

Britain was well along the road to ruin. They must say farewell to the medium term financial strategy or say goodbye to the British economy. (Labour cheers.)

For the last two and a half years there had been the strident assertions of the Prime Minister, with disaster following disaster, that there was no alternative but to go through the vale of tears. How ludicrous that sounded today.

Tina is dead (he sair). Hardly a week goes by without the presentation of well researched and documented alternative packages presented by men of greater economic experience and repute than sit on the Government front bench or advise them; by industry itself. Of course there are alternatives, all of them preferable to what we have today.

The problem is to choose the most effective package and judge, against the continuing deterioration of our affairs the scale of the reflation which will be required and the best mix of policies to achieve it.

Six months ago he had presented proposals for constructive action to reduce costs and increase demand in industry. He had urged a cut in interest rates, a realistic and lower exchange rate, a slashing of the national insurance surcharge and direct assistance to cut the cost of fuel, particularly for some industries.

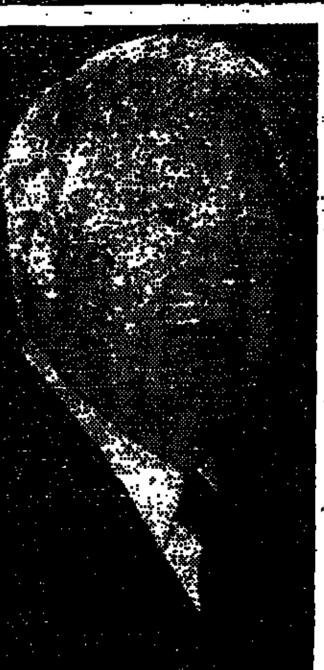
On the demand side he had urged measures to increase public sector investment. Railway electrification, the North Sea gas gathering pipeline, an enlarged housing programme were all in the public interest and could be welcomed today.

Does anyone doubt after Brixton and Toxteth (he continued) that inner city problems should be given a far higher priority?

In their arrogance, these and similar proposals were dismissed, as was the TUC's sober recommendation for an extra £5,000m in public expenditure.

Labour would involve government and industry far more directly together in planning a long-term and sustained recovery.

We have reached a period in our affairs (he concluded) when it is no good talking any longer about flexibility, about changing gear, about even changing course. There is only one change this country and this House needs to make and that is a change of Government. (Labour cheers.)



Heath: Used Opec surpluses.



Williams: Think again

Heath attacks education cuts

Mr Edward Heath (Bexley, Sidcup, C) said he deplored the artificial division between the private and the public sectors in the economy. It led to wrong decisions and false judgments. These sectors were inextricably interlocked.

None of them could like the idea of cutting back on unemployment benefits. He disliked it intensely and would need a great deal of persuasion that it was inescapable. The argument that because the rest of them had to suffer a reduction in the standard of living, the unemployed must bear their share was fallacious and unacceptable. It had no philosophical backing whatever and did not represent a justifiable reasoning process.

The fact there would be more burdens on industry was one of the contradictions of Government policy which businessmen found difficult to understand. They had complained about the national insurance surcharge so when they found additional burdens they did not feel this was a recognition of their point of view.

If the Chancellor was considering education cuts when it came to the budget, many of them would take the strongest possible objection.

When educational facilities are lost to children or students (he said) they can never be regained. That is a loss to a generation and a loss for a lifetime. This is why education ought to be among the highest priorities for Government expenditure. There was a strong feeling among Tory MPs as well as elsewhere about this.

Compared to the enormous problems they faced, the Chancellor had produced a comparatively limited statement. They found that the Government medium term financial strategy had been undermined.

The Chancellor's emphasis that in future he was going to take account of exchange and interest rates was a welcome development.

There never was an intellectual justification for pure monetarism, nor was there any practical justification for it. What they had seen emerge over the last two and a half years on this side of the Atlantic were contradictions brought about by the pursuit of pure monetarist policy.

It was welcome that the Chancellor was thinking in broader terms. If he needed any justification there were the economists now beating their breasts and saying they were wrong.

I am not asking for a U-turn (he said)—I would never ask for that. I am trying to be as helpful as I can.

I just want a veer of the Government on the right kerb so many of us would feel much happier.

No mention had been made of the United States economy which was heading rapidly towards the deepest depression since 1931 which would affect British and EEC trade.

Forecasts about a 1 per cent growth next year should be regarded with a certain degree of scepticism.

It was essential that the European Community found a way of dealing with interest rates inside the Community, so that it was not dragged along behind whatever policy the US Federal Reserve decided to follow.

Britain should join the European monetary system. It would help to stabilize sterling. If the Chancellor was serious in saying that he intended to deal with the sterling exchange rate, that was how it should be done. Britain must go in at the right rate, and that was a matter of judgment.

If the Chancellor could separate Britain and the Community from the high interest rates on the other side of the Atlantic, he could begin to make progress. Every point that interest rates were reduced could increase the GDP by 1 per cent. If interest rates were really brought down it would help reduce unemployment, the Government borrowing requirement and Government expenditure.

It was important that the Chancellor removed the confusion by making it plain the policies which he was following. (Laughter.) It was particularly necessary in the exchange rate. MPs must know clearly if he was going to follow a policy on the exchange rate, interest rates, the money supply and Government borrowing. He should take an early opportunity of explaining how growth was to be brought about. It could only happen by a process of reflation.

Britain was going to face to an even greater extent the problem of lack of skilled manpower and womanpower. Britain had never had a comprehensive training system and it was desperately needed today.

The Opec surpluses were crucial in today's world situation and they should be put to good use. That demanded international action. One way was to give the Opec countries a greater say in the international monetary institutions such as the World Bank, but that had been blocked by the Chancellor for the last two years.

These surpluses should be used for development and investment. Instead vast sums were being put in banks wherever they attracted the highest interest rates.

While the Chancellor was making an obvious run for goal he should show why things were going to happen, how they were going to happen and then show the country he was determined to carry it through.

Williams: Spend on foundations

Mrs Shirley Williams (Crosby, SDP) said it was difficult to understand how increased rates, rents and charges would do anything effective about inflation, which the Government claimed was its major and overriding target. It was equally difficult to discern how an increase in the national insurance contribution rate and in the rates that would fall upon industry next year would do anything to increase the level of employment.

An increase in national insurance contributions, even if balanced by a decrease in income tax, would be a form of regressive movement in overall taxation.

In the past two and a half years manufacturing output had fallen by nearly a fifth, investment in the private sector by nearly a quarter, and the level of inflation far from decreasing had increased by 1.3 per cent. Against all this the Chancellor said that the situation was about to improve.

The British people were being sacrificed on the altar of monetarism. It might be that the epitaph on the coffin of the British economy would be expressed in the words: "Rest in peace. You died for the cause of a lower public sector borrowing requirement".

As well as the decline in investment of a quarter over the past two years there was the tragic fact that in 1981 the number of young men and women who ships, the most crucial industry of all for the future of the economy, was the lowest since records were first kept.

The 16,000 engineer apprentices taken on in 1981 were estimated by the industry to be 4,000 less than the absolute minimum req irement to sustain the skill levels of that industry and its competitiveness.

argued that there was no alternative. Her party believed that there was a strong case for a reflation figure of approximately £5,000m to £6,000m a year.

If that figure were used in a way that was carefully chosen to support the more labour intensive areas such as housing modernization, basic economic cation, modernization of harbours and transport, conservation of energy and reequipment of small and medium-sized repaid within four or five years.

She wanted supported what Mr Heath had said about training. On December 15 the Secretary of State for Employment (Mr Norman Tebbit) would put before the House his proposals for the and the training of young people.

I fear (she said) that once again too much of the Government's money will go into cosmetic schemes trying to take young people off the unemployment register without any effective foundation of skilled training which will give them permanent prospects for the future.

Was not the time right to mobilize every last empty apprenticeship in the great industries, an din the Forces training centres and every empty place in the further education colleges to give young people a one-year basic foundation of industrial training when they left school.

At the present time school-leavers were being turned out into an economy that had nothing for them at a time when there were massive shortages of skills.

There was a most profound confusion in industry, despair in the great cities, and bitterness among young people. Yet from all sides of the House the Government was being urged towards a reasonable, moderate and sensible policy of reflation and reinvestment.

I beg the Government (she concluded) in the interests of the people of this country and in the interests of saving our economy from the desperate condition in which it is now to think again.

Foreign Office stands behind its employee

HOUSE OF LORDS

The decision of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to pay the legal costs of one of its employees in a libel suit against Private Eye was defended by Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, during questions in the House of Lords.

The Marquess of Tweeddale (Ind) had asked whether the Government agreed that the granting of what amounted to legal aid to Mr Gordon Kirby by the Foreign Office in his libel suit against Private Eye had given rise to justifiable public disquiet.

Lord Trefgarne: No. The circumstances leading to Mr Kirby's action arose entirely from his performance of his official duties. In that situation disquiet would in our view be justified if the Foreign and Commonwealth Office had failed to stand behind its employee in his efforts to clear his name.

The Marquess of Tweeddale: Does he really think it is justifiable at a time when cuts are being made in essential services, such as the BBC's overseas broadcasts, to lay out public money in this way particularly when, as I understand it, this laying out of public money will only be necessary if the extremely damaging allegations of Private Eye in respect of Mr Kirby are proved to be founded?

Lord Trefgarne: Naturally we do.

The Hops Marketing Bill was read for the third time and passed.

The Harbours (Scotland) Bill, which gives powers to establish harbour trusts to hold, manage and maintain harbours in Scotland and to transfer to such trusts any harbours held or maintained for the time being by the Secretary of State for Scotland was read a second time.

Dialogue with Libya bodes well—Minister

A Labour peer said that America's Fifth fleet should carry out as many strikes, as was necessary to disarm Libya because it was an assassins' state.

Lord Paget of Northampton was opening a short debate on Monday on allegations contained in a BBC Panorama programme that the Government of Libya was promoting assassinations outside its own country.

The only thing which civilization can do with this sort of state (he said) is to disarm it and methods necessary must be taken.

In the Panorama programme on November 23 specific instances were given of Colonel Gaddafi engaging and employing murder tutors to operate in camps to train assassins. That state was officially instructing and officially using assassins.

Libya claims to be a democracy (he said. Like Mr Wedgwood Benn, Colonel Gaddafi claims to implement democracy in the most absolute way through direct people's democracy.

At that point he goes further than Mr Benn because he draws the conclusion that this entitles him as of right to liquidate all Libyans who disagree with him.

Where he is exceptional is that he claims as of right to do his murdering in other people's countries without regard to their sovereign rights.

Since March, 1980, Colonel Gaddafi had murdered 12 people in Europe and had attempted to murder a number of others. He had murdered a large number in the Middle East—and not all had been Libyans.

Now Colonel Gaddafi was said to have sent an assassin's gang to America to murder President Reagan. He did not know if that was true but given his record it was not the least improbable.

I do not think (he added) that it would take the Fifth fleet very long, or very many strikes, to carry out this most proper exercise in practical disarmament. I think we should encourage them to do so and give them support.

If Egypt was prepared to, it should accept the job of taking and administering the province. She would have minimal difficulty in moving in and assuming control.

Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of Stat efor Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said that relations between the United Kingdom and Libya had not always been smooth and since the expulsion of Libyan diplomats last year relations had not been entirely normal, but a constructive dialogue with the Libyans boded well for the future.

After two Libyans were killed in London last year, the Government had sought and received assurances at a high level that there would be no repetition. Britain remained a good trading partner with Libya, and the Libyans were keen for more British firms to tender for work there.

The Government was not responsible for the Panorama programme, nor for its contents, and allegations of contraventions of American law were a matter for that country. However, there was no evidence that British law had been broken as had been described.

If the BBC had evidence they would doubtless bring it to the attention of the police. The suggestion that British authorities turned a blind eye to illegal activities was without foundation, as was the suggestion of collusion between British and CIA agents.

The Government had no reason to believe members of the IRA were trained in Libya, neither did it have any evidence to connect the Libyans with the death of the late Lord Mountbatten, nor with attacks on British politicians or embassies, nor with the Welsh Nationalists, nor with the death of the Bulgarian broadcaster in London.

Although the Government did not agree with all Libyan policies, it accepted the right of Libya to self-determination, and would reject any suggestion that force might be used against her.

It was well known that Libya bought most of her arms from Russia, and Russia gained much-needed hard currency. But there was little evidence to suggest that—although foreign policies sometimes coincided—either was interested in a closer political relationship. Nor was there any evidence of Libyan involvement in President Sadat's death, although the Libyans, who opposed Camp David, welcomed it. Relations with Egypt, while tense after the death, seemed to have improved since.

Rephasing of Tornado aircraft

DEFENCE

Following a proposal by the German Minister of Defence, the United Kingdom was currently considering with its partners in the Tornado programme the possibility of a change in delivery rates to assist in relieving pressures on defence budgets, Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, said.

Mr Cyril Townsend (Bexley, Bexleyheath, C): In view of the inherent weakness of our air defence in Britain, does the minister appreciate that his remarks will be regarded on the Conservative side as in many ways undermining what we said on defence before and at the general election. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Pattie: I do not think he is right in saying that because the Tornado programme is in two constituent parts. We are talking about rephasing the IDS strike version and the ADV version of the Tornado comes later on.

Mr Robert Atkins (Preston, North, C) said his constituents, and those of other MPs, would take it amiss if the Tornado were cut back to the extent the minister had indicated.

Would the minister (he added) press even more strongly on the German Government and anyone else within the Tornado programme who are making difficulties in the sale of Tornado outside Nato?

Mr Pattie: We are examining the possibility of a change in the rates. We are discussing the point he makes about sales with the Federal German Government.

Twenty-five per cent of the work done at British Aerospace at Weybridge is on the Tornado programme.

He said later that the Government would take into account the usual wide range of criteria when planning future aircraft for the RAF. That included the threat, the nature of the role, the state of technological development, cost, the capabilities of industry, the prospects for collaboration with allies and the potential for export.

Mr Robert Atkins: If there is to be no Jaguar replacement, presumably in favour of Hawks, Tornadoes and Harriers, and he confirms his oft-expressed view that he does not want to buy foreign aircraft for the RAF, what benefits does he think that the discussions on future criteria will have if this state of affairs exists on the world beating design team based at British Aerospace?

Mr Pattie: It is going to be necessary for the British Aerospace company to develop one of the projects that they have under consideration at the moment—possibly the D110. Ways are being considered whereby it might be possible to find some funding for them. It is not possible at present to find funds within the current defence plans.

No clearance yet for Ark Royal planes

The aircraft carrier Ark Royal was expected to enter service sometime in the mid-eighties, Mr Jerry Wiggin, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, said.

Mr Michael Brotherton (Louth, C) who had asked for the date, said: Illustrious is behind schedule and we need two carriers at least. Will he take the opportunity to deny categorically reports in the press that discussions have taken place between the Government and the Government of Australia about the sale of Invincible to that country?

Mr Wiggin: I cannot deny that. The problem raised is well understood and certainly in any timings that matter will be taken into account.

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove and Redditch, C): What aircraft are going to be available to fly from the Ark Royal when she comes into service? Has permission been given for the Royal Navy to order Sea Harriers and helicopters?

Mr Wiggin: There will be Sea Harriers and Sea Kings but there is no clearance for additional aircraft, as yet.

Trident II is more powerful than we need

If the United Kingdom went for either the Trident I or Trident II the relationship between its strategic nuclear deterrent force and the Russians' strategic missile force would be about the same as it was when this country introduced Polaris, Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said.

He told MPs that the Government was still studying the final configuration of the United Kingdom Trident force. The decision and the cost implications would be announced in due course.

Mr Ioan Evans (Aberdare, Lab): Latest reports are that Trident will cost not £5,000m but £8,000m. What will be the running and maintenance costs above that?

Is this expenditure justified on the day when we will be talking about taxing the sick and cutting down on grants to university students and on social security benefits to the unemployed?

Mr Blaker: Our estimate is that the cost of introducing Trident will be about 3 per cent of the defence budget spread over 15 years. Running costs after it has been introduced are likely to be about 1½ per cent.

It would be very nice to be able to spend more on many things but that is not an argument for reducing defences to a level which is inadequate and which would endanger the risk of war.

Mr Robert Cryer (Keighley, Lab): Is it not scandalous that children are dying because of a shortage of funds for bone marrow transplants while the Government is contemplating an extra £1,400m in buying the D5 missile instead of the D4?

Mr Blaker: While one regrets the death of children in any circumstances, if war occurs the number of children killed would be vastly greater than anything Mr Cryer has referred to.

I would remind him that Mr Denis Healey said not long ago that if we have inadequate defences we risk not having more schools, houses and hospitals but a heap of cinders. (Conservative cheers.)

In response to a further question, Mr Blaker said that it did not follow that the through-life costs of Trident II would be greater than those of Trident I.

The Trident system we believe (he said) is the most cost-effective system for us. Trident II is more powerful than we would really need; but there are many reasons for going for Trident since any other effective system we have looked at would be more expensive.

He added later: We do not have any plans for bringing Trident into multilateral disarmament negotiations at the present stage for a number of reasons,



Blaker: many reasons for having Trident

one of which is that our strategic nuclear deterrent force if it were diminished in size would cease to be a credible deterrent.

Mr Michael Latham (Melton, C): There needs to be a clear cost limit for this programme.

Mr Blaker: There will be a cost limit.

Pressures on budget for defence

Britain could maintain both a strategic nuclear deterrent and a credible conventional defence policy, Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said, when asked if the defence budget was adequate to enable all the United Kingdom's present defence roles to be fulfilled.

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove and Redditch, C): Can he assure MPs that the extra funds announced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, last week are enough to carry forward the programme set out in the defence White Paper, or have we reached the stage where our defence strategy has to be re-examined?

Mr Blaker, explaining that Mr John Nott, the Secretary of State for Defence, was attending a Nato ministerial meeting in Brussels, said there were pressures on the defence budget arising partly because industry was delivering its products earlier than expected and the measures announced in the White Paper would take some time to work through. But that remained the strategy.

Mr John Silkin, chief Opposition spokesman on defence and disarmament (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab): Is it not obvious that we cannot afford both an effective conventional defence and a credible nuclear weapons system, enough, at any rate, to get us an invitation to the conference in Geneva.

Mr Blaker: It has never been the intention that we should join the conference at Geneva. Yes, we can maintain both a strategic nuclear deterrent and a credible conventional defence policy.

Mr Silkin: I thought one of the bases of our having the nuclear deterrent was that we would be invited to the top table in the conference chamber. What has happened to the top table and the conference table?

Mr Blaker: We are closely consulted, as is the whole of Nato, about the presentation of the position which the United States is putting forward at Geneva. It was never intended that we should engage in those discussions. It had always been the intention that they should be between the Soviet Union and the United States.

Mr Richard Crawshaw (Liverpool, Toxteth, SDP): Are the funds adequate to train personnel with the new equipment coming forward? One of the things exercising the minds of the forces is the cutting down of the training facilities available. Some decrease in the numbers and extra training of those remaining might be better than having the equipment without people trained to use it

Mr Blaker: It was one of the objectives of the review which took place in the summer that we would be able to spend more time and resources on training instead of bumping our head constantly against the ceiling. We believe we have to give ourselves a bit more head room to build up stocks and have more training.

Gibraltar minister to visit UK

The Chief Minister and the Governor of Gibraltar are expected to visit Britain next week following the Government's decision to run down the naval dockyard at Gibraltar, Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said. Mr John Silkin, chief Opposition defence spokesman, considered that it was Mr Blaker's duty to go to Gibraltar for talks.

Mr Blaker recalled that consultations were held from November 24 to 28 between United Kingdom officials and Gibraltar ministers and officials led by Sir Joshua Hassan, Chief Minister. No ministerial visit to Gibraltar was planned for the moment.

Mr Michael Latham (Melton, C): Shutting down the dockyard without alternative provision and restricting the use of the vital airstrip is not an honourable way to treat some of her Majesty's most devoted and loyal subjects.

Will he go forthwith to Gibraltar, meet the local people and reassure them that it is not a Foreign Office ploy to force them into the arms of Spain?

Mr Blaker: I would be prepared to go to Gibraltar at an appropriate moment if that seemed likely to be useful.

He is overstating what is intended. We have reiterated to the Chief Minister and people of Gibraltar the British Government's policy of supporting and sustaining Gibraltar which originated when the barrier was closed by General Franco.

On the airstrip, we have stated what we would like to see done, that would exclude few civilian flights from the numbers that now occur. We have said we are prepared to discuss with the Gibraltar Governor what should be done.

Mr John Silkin: That reply is not good enough. It is his duty to go to Gibraltar. The talks ought to take place in Gibraltar. He ought to have the courage too talk to the people who work in the docks.

Apart from anything else, for 277 years the people of Gibraltar have been British and want to remain so.

Mr Blaker: I entirely endorse the tribute he has paid by implication to the people of Gibraltar. I am happy to consider going to Gibraltar at the appropriate time, but now is not that time because Sir Joshua Hassan is going to come here.

Mr Albert McQuarrie (East Aberdeenshire, C): When he does have discussions with the Governor, will he make clear that if there is a possibility of the refitting of frigates ceasing by 1983, the naval base facilities will continue because the information conveyed by the civil servants who went to Gibraltar created chaos and consternation among the people of Gibraltar about the number of jobs that will be lost there.

Mr Blaker: Consideration will be given to further naval work for the dockyard up to 1984. What is being examined is the possibility of commercialization of the dockyard, and the Gibraltar Government regard the prospects of successful commercialization as reasonable. The naval base will remain open, and there will be an army presence there, as there has been until now.

Soviet Union should cease harassment

The hope that the Soviet Union would stop any further harassment of the Russian dissident Dr Andrei Sakharov and his wife was expressed by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, during questions.

She also said: We deplore the circumstances which led Dr and Mrs Sakharov to go on hunger strike. We hope that the Soviet authorities will let the wife of Dr Sakharov's stepson join her husband in the United States.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C) had asked the Prime Minister to deplore the Soviet Government's callous treatment of Dr Sakharov.

Would she (he continued) also condemn the Soviet Government's ill-treatment of a long line of prisoners of conscience like Anatoly Sharansky and also their refusal to allow thousands of Soviet Jews to have exit visas to join their families elsewhere, all in flagrant and contemptuous disregard of the Helsinki Final Act on human rights?

Mrs Thatcher: This Government has frequently made representations on the blatant disregard of the Soviet Union of their commitment under the Helsinki Act. I have also frequently raised individual cases with the Soviet Union, including those he has mentioned.

Yesterday the Foreign Office issued a statement about Dr Sakharov. Today the Foreign Ministers in Brussels are considering that problem again.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Scotland. Debates on common fisheries policy and on heavy lorries on Opposition motions.
Lords (2.30): Debate on defence.

Few will escape seat belt compulsion

By Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

The Government has decided that there should be a minimum of exemptions to the law requiring car drivers and front seat passengers to wear seat belts, which will probably come into effect next summer.

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, said yesterday that exemptions would be controversial and he did not want to impose compulsion on anyone in circumstances where it would be undesirable.

But to grant exemptions widely would give rise to a sense of unfairness, reduce the potential for saving casualties and increase enforcement difficulties for the police. Nearly all the exemptions for which there was a clear case were provided for in the recent Transport Act.

They were drivers when reversing local delivery roundsmen, and holders of signed medical certificates indicating that belt-wearing was inadvisable.

Additional exemptions proposed by Mr Howell, and subject to approval by Parliament, include police officers escorting civilians, prison officers in the front passenger sea when escorting prisoners; and firemen donning equipment on the way to an emergency.

Mr Howell added: "I will, of course, consider very carefully arguments in support of other claims put forward; but these claims would have to be based on the most compelling reasons".

Mr Howell has ruled out exemption on the ground of conscientious objection, arguing that there is no means by which the degree of sincerity could be tested.

Failure to wear belts will carry a fine of up to £50, but will not be an endorsable offence. There will be a similar penalty for drivers who allow children between the ages of one and 14 to travel in the front seat without being restrained. Babies under the age of one will be allowed only on the back seat.

On children, Mr Howell said the law was laying down minumum requirements. He hoped parents would give their children a higher standard of protection. The ideal was for children to travel in the back seat in an appropriate seat or harness.

He did not foresee difficulties in enforcing the law, since most people accepted that wearing belts could save lives. But he was planning an early publicity campaign to remind the public of the need for the measure.

He was also arranging for belt manufacturers to advise on how people could make their belts more comfortable, for instance, by changing the height of the anchorage point.

The present wearing rate is about 30 per cent. The Government estimates that if all car occupants wore belts 1,000 lives and 10,000 serious injuries cold be saved in a year, and an 80 per cent rate could save 750 deaths and 6,500 serious injuries.

The law will not apply to lorries, coaches and electric goods vehicles such as milk floats, or to vehicles registered before the fitting of belts became compulsory.

Lennon anniversary

Thousands gather to honour dead Beatle

From John Chartres, Liverpool

Bunches of flowers, wreaths and lighted candles were placed yesterday at the foot of a statue of John Lennon in Mathew Street, Liverpool, the site of the original Cavern Club, where the Beatles played in their early days.

Several thousand worshippers of the Beatles cult converged on the city for the first anniversary of Mr Lennon's murder in New York. A late night vigil and open air concert took place outside St George's Hall, in the centre of Liverpool.

The visitors included several foreign television teams and a party of Japanese. Five hundred stewards were recruited by Mr Sam Leach, who organized the commemoration arrangements.

The "Cavern Mecca", a Beatles museum and information centre 100 yards down Mathew Street from the site of the original Cavern (now a car park), did brisk business with admission at 30p a head, and with T-shirts, scarves, books records and other memorabilia on sale. The centre has obtained more than 2,500 signatures in its visitors' book since it opened earlier this year.

On Monday it was announced that the original Cavern site may be reexcavated and a shop and office complex built above it, with a restoration of the orginal club as a centrepiece. The project, estimated to cost £7m, will shortly go before Liverpool city council for planning approval.

Mr David Backhouse, the architect for the scheme, said yesterday that he believed some of the structure of the original Cavern Club would be exposed when the site was reexcavated. It was covered over after its use as a shaft for the building of the Merseyside underground railway in 1973.

The 14ft statue of Mr Lennon, showing him wearing denims and with his guitar in one hand and displaying a peace sign with the other, has been executed in glass fibre and steel by a local sculptor and devotee, Mr Allen Curran.

It has stood for some weeks in the Liverpool Everyman Theatre, where the musical play, *Lennon* is running, and was moved temporarily to Mathew Street yesterday. A £10,000 appeal is under way to have it cast in bronze and then made a permanent exhibit either in the open in Mathew Street, or in a re-created Cavern.

Proceeds from last night's production of *Lennon* at the 400-seat Everyman Theatre are to be given to charity. Brisk business was also being done by Liverpool City Council public relations department in sales of Beatles calendars at £1.50, a Beatles map at 50p, and a poster showing the original Cavern at 50p.



Sandra Brogan, of Liverpool, laying a floral tribute on John Lennon's statue yesterday

Woman took schoolboys to bed

Schoolboys queued outside a Scarborough council house for sex lessons with a mother of three, aged 21, York Crown Court heard yesterday. The "bizarre and thoroughly unpleasant" case came to light after an anonymous telephone call to the NSPCC, Mr Paul Worsley, for the prosecution, said.

Mrs Catherine Hopkins, housewife, of High Garth, Eastfield, Scarborough, admitted four offences of indecency involving boys aged between 10 and 12, and one offence of encouraging indecency between a boy of 11 and a baby aged 20 months.

A charge of cruelty involving the baby and two further offences of indecency, which she denied, were ordered to lie on the file by Judge Bennett.

Mr Worsley said that schoolboys regularly visited Mrs Hopkins's house, where she would occasionally give them cider.

On one occasion, he alleged, there were five in a bed, one boy with Mrs Hopkins and two with another woman, who has already been dealt with by the court. Neighbours became concerned when they saw boys jumping from a balcony at the house and Mrs Hopkins, dressed only in brassiere and panties, pursuing them inside the house.

Imposing a two-year probation order, the judge said Mrs Hopkins had already spent four months in custody, her three children were in care and the future of her marriage was in doubt.

Wide scope for test tube baby method

By Nicholas Timmins

The test-tube baby technique could become a simple, regular procedure in district general hospitals in the not too distance future, according to a leading article in *The Lancet*.

That would open up all sorts of possibilities. Women from whom ova cannot be obtained would become pregnant from an ovum donated by another woman, in much the same way that couples can benefit from artificial insemination by donor (AID). where the man is infertile.

A woman whose offspring would risk inherited disease could receive ova from another woman; and where infertility is due to both partners, "embryo adoption" might be possible.

That would involve an ovum donated by another woman, and sperm perhaps from a sperm bank, producing a child adopted shortly after conception rather than after it is born. It would offer the fulfilment of pregnancy, childbirth and parenthood, *The Lancet* says.

The journal argues that the success at Cambridge, where there are now 60 continuing pregnancies and six successful births, and in Australia, suggests that one successful pregnancy will result from every 10 to 15 tranfers of test-tube fertilized embryos.

Many questions still remain to be answered about the best moment to transfer the fertilized embryo back to the mother, whether it should be when it has developed to two ,four, eight or sixteen cells. Other technical details such as the minimum number of sperm needed to achieve successful fertilization have still to be resolved.

But *The Lancet* says "it is not hard to envisage the day when *in-vitro* fertilization and embryo transfer (the test-tube baby technique) is simple and reproducible."

The procedure is unlikely to replace standard treatments, such as fertility drugs for women who do not ovulate, or surgery for certain diseases of the fallopian tubes, which carry the egg to the womb. It might however complement them.

The article suggests that some of the criteria previously stated to be necessary for success are now open to question.

Mr Patrick Steptoe and Dr Robert Edwards, who produced the first test-tube baby and now run the Cambridge centre, abandoned the practice of using fertlity drugs to stimulate ovulation in order to make it easier to collect eggs for fertilization.

They argued that this produced abnormal hormone responses, which might hamper the embryo's chances of implanting successfully in the womb. The Australian groups, however, still use fertility drugs and produce live births and pregnancies at a similar rate to Steptoe and Edwards.

The Lancet also argues that inducing ovulation in that way is cheaper and more convenient

Jobs battle brings sex equality challenge

From Tim Jones
Merthyr Tydfil

Redundancy agreements throughout British industry are being examined to determine whether they contravene the Sex Discrimination Act. The Hoover company has decided to suspend planned redundancies for six months at its Merthyr Tydfil plant after women workers complained to the Equal Opportunities Commission.

A decision on more than 200 redundancies at the plant, required to make it viable, has been delayed so that management and union officials can agree on a formula which is seen to treat both sexes equally.

The dispute has created a situation which the company cannot under present agreements win, as it is faced with a stark choice of possible industrial action or prosecution under the Act.

When the company announced the redundacies the male-dominated unions at the plant said men and women workers should be treated separately and that the most junior of each sex would go. That would mean 40 female redundancies.

Women workers, however, said redundancies should be on a last in, first out basis, and reported the matter to the commission.

The commission backed the women, all of whom have been employed for many years.

Left-wing drive to resist reform of TUC council

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

The mainly left-wing unions opposed to reform of the TUC General Council have quietly opened a campaign to overthrow the proposals approved by congress in September.

A private meeting of union leaders last month marked the first stage of what is expected to be a concerted effort to ensure that plans for automatic representation for larger unions are not enacted.

The "invitation only" meeting in a London hotel, chaired by Mr Alexander Kitson, deputy general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, was held partly to assess the strength of opposition to the proposals, which were comfortably approved by congress despite the opposition of the general council.

The plans, first put forward by the Post Office Engineering Union, would end the division of the TUC into 18 trade groups and give one representative on the general council to each union with more than 100,000 members.

The proposals would allot additional representatives to unions with 500,000 members or more, according to a sliding scale based only on size. They would put at risk several leaders of small, mainly craft-based, unions, most of whom are at present left-wingers who rely partly on the continued electoral support of the TGWU.

Last month's meeting though dominated by the left, included some right-wingers who opposed the postal workers' proposals. Conversely, two unions normally thought of as left wing, the National Union of Public Employees and the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, were not represented because they supported the postal workers' proposals.

The daunting task of giving practical force to the proposals in a way that will command majority support and provide some representation for the smaller unions on the general council has been handed for the present to the TUC secretariat.

The finance and general purposes committee will then consider a Congress House paper on the subject before making definite proposals, as it is charged to do by the motion approved in Blackpool, to the TUC General Council and subsequently to next year's congress in Brighton.

In the meantime both the right-wing camp, in which the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers is prominent, and the left will be trying to bring pressure on waverers to come over to their side on the reform proposals.

Participants at last month's meeting have been reluctant to talk about what was said, but it is clear that most present agreed that while reform of the systems was required it should not provide for automatic representation.

Some of the more hawkish opponents of the reforms believe that Nupe and ASTMS may both be open to pressure to revise their stance in the discussions behind the scenes, provided an acceptable form of compromise can be worked out and the two unions are guaranteed support for their candidates to the newly expanded women's section of the General Council. The TGWU, for example, voted last month against Mrs Olwen Davies, the NUPE candidate who failed to win a seat.

Cheysson scorns EEC efforts in Middle East

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Dec 8

Serious doubt has been thrown on the future of the European initiative for the Middle East after a visit to Israel during which M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, rejected the idea of any such outside intervention and dismissed parts of the 1980 Venice Declaration as absurd.

Interviewed on Israel radio today, M Cheysson said "It is up to the countries in the region to decide about their own future. We in Europe would not accept that there should be an American initiative or a Russian initiative or a Brazilian initiative to tell us what we should do among us Europeans."

The minister said it had been both "wrong and absurd" for the Venice Declaration of the EEC to adopt an anti Camp David stance.

The outspoken language used by M Cheysson, the first French foreign minister to visit Israel for five years, has delighted the Israelis as much as it is likely to upset some of those EEC governments most closely associated with the Venice Declaration, notably Britain.

Before M Cheysson left Tel Aviv tonight, his Israeli counterpart, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, told a press conference that the 24 hour visit had "opened a new era" in relations between the two countries. This is expected to be further cemented when President Mitterrand pays a three-day visit to Israel in February.

Israeli officials are now expressing optimism that the coldness which has marked relations with France for the past few years has now been transformed, although it is admitted that wide differences of view still exist on the Palestinian issue.

Explaining the French Government's approach, M Cheysson said the anti Camp David tone of the Venice Declaration had been "wrong because Camp David is progress . . . absurd, because who can think there can be peace without Egypt and who can think that the Americans have no role to play".

M Cheysson added that although there were some "excellent things" in the Venice Declaration, Europe had now gone beyond it. He cited specifically the offer to contribute four EEC contingents to the Sinai peacekeeping force, an offer whose future is still uncertain. "This is no part of the Venice Declaration but it is part of the European decision", he stated. "Therefore Venice is behind us."

The extent to which the French Minister appeared to be agreeing with the Israelis on the search for Middle East peace surprised some European diplomatic observers.

But at his press conference, M Cheysson denied that the remarks signified any change in the French Government's Middle East policy. "What I have said is nothing new. It was stated by the President of the French Republic to the European Community in Luxembourg last July."

The minister told a West German reporter: "We have no objection to common positions. What we say is that initiatives and plans should be proposed and discussed between those directly concerned and not by countries like the Europeans which have an interest but no direct involvement in the settlement."

Before leaving Israel tonight, M Cheysson flatly ruled out local reports that the possibility of resuming French arms sales to Israel had been discussed during his talks with Israeli leaders. "There has been no question about it during my visit here", he said.

Speculation had been encouraged by an earlier interview in which M Cheysson said that since France had lifted its arms embargo to the Middle East in 1974, nothing stood in the way of resuming arms sales to Israel or any other country in the region.

In discussions on the Palestinian issue, Mr Shamir is understood to have emphasized that there is already a Palestinian state in Jordan. Explaining remarks made in a speech, M Cheysson said today: "In the region there is a people, the rights of which have not for the time being been respected. There is still a people that does not enjoy the normal rights of any people in the world to a homeland, to state structures. That is what I said. I did not say Palestine or Palestinians, but it is clear to everyone."

□ Brussels: Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, will be seeking an urgent explanation tomorrow from M Cheysson, about the French position (Ian Murray writes).

US plans ways of dealing with Gaddafi

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington, Dec 8

For the second day in succession President Reagan presided over a meeting of his National Security Council this morning to discuss possible punitive economic and political measures against Libya.

This action was unusual and reflects both the urgency with which the Administration is considering the situation and also the difficulty in taking any effective steps against Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's regime.

An American policy review has been under way for three months, well before the Administration's latest concern over reports that the Libyan leader had sent agents to the United States to assassinate President Reagan and other American leaders.

These reports were denied by Colonel Gaddafi during an interview on American television last weekend, but yesterday President Reagan confirmed that the United States had evidence of a Libyan assassination plot.

Despite Mr Reagan's remarks, there is still considerable doubt in Washington that the Libyan leader planned anything quite as dramatic as the assassination of the President of the United States. Some observers feel that the Administration, by giving official credence to reports about Libyan assassination squads, is attempting to develop a pretext for taking action against Libya with the intention of cutting Colonel Gaddafi down to size.

This is denied by Administration officials who point to the Libyan leader's past record of supporting terrorist activities around the world as evidence of what Colonel Gaddafi is capable of doing.

According to press reports, much of the information about the alleged Libyan hit squad has come from a foreigner who was in Libya and said he heard Colonel Gaddafi give the orders. This man, who is said to have been involved in training assassination agents, is now in the custody of the Central Intelligence Agency where he is being interrogated.

□ Colonel Gaddafi, in a message to the Afro-Arab conference in Luanda, Angola, said that his country's armed forces were ready to intervene in any part of the world in order to take part in what he called the struggle against the powers of evil (Reuter reports).



"It seems Gaddafi means business: now he's granting you a last wish"

EEC tries informal line to end differences

From Ian Murray
Brussels, Dec 8

European foreign ministers are to meet informally in London on Monday and Tuesday in a last attempt during the British presidency of the EEC to solve the Community's tangled financial problems.

Announcing the dates at the end of the last full Foreign Ministers Council he would chair as president, Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, said a solution was the overriding concern of the British presidency.

"The problems are immensely complex and it is not going to be easy", he said. "I would not expect miracles but we will be striving to establish guidelines of sufficient severity to enable the problems to be solved."

This effort was called for after the European summit meeting in London last month failed to agree the necessary guidelines for reform of the common agricultural policy and budgetary contributions. After the summit, Mrs Margaret Thatcher identified four crucial points as standing in the way of settlement. These four points form the basis of next week's agenda.

Three of them involve the agricultural policy. These are milk production, Mediterranean products, and how large a proportion of the budget should be spent on agriculture. Until these questions are resolved no progress can be made on the fourth point, which most interests Britain—the size of budgetary contributions.

Fixing the dates proved a complex negotiation in its own right, as did the exact format of the meeting itself. France was anxious to have arrangements as informal as possible, rather like the foreign ministers' meeting held at Brockett Hall in Hertfordshire at the beginning of the British presidency.

The difficulties of providing adequate facilities, particularly for translation, in the end meant that Lancaster House was chosen as the venue. However, each foreign minister will be assisted by only two officials and Lord Carrington will be trying to recreate the friendly atmosphere of the Brockett Hall meeting in the belief that this is the best way to reach agreement.

He suggested today that he hoped to achieve as much over the informal dinner the ministers will have together on Monday evening as during the meeting proper on Monday afternoon and throughout Tuesday.

Lord Carrington said the aim was to try to pick up the argument from the point which had been reached during the summit. Now that everyone had a clear idea of what the issues were he felt it would be easier to address the real problems.

The guidelines being sought, he said, would have to be very clear. There was no point in producing general guidelines so vague that discussion had to begin all over again once an attempt was made to apply them. Once decided, the guidelines would be passed to the specialist councils for detailed agreements.

A hint of how long all this might take was given by today's decision of the Foreign Council to extend the Community's existing trading arrangements with Cyprus by six months. A new arrangement was to have been negotiated to take effect in the new year, but French and Italian opposition has ruled that out.

Resolving the outstanding question about a market for Mediterranean produce as part of the reform of the common agricultural policy would, however, make it possible for these two countries to work towards the new deal with Cyprus.

The hope is that the six-month breathing space will be enough to achieve this, although Lord Carrington said the short-term Cyprus proposal was "not good enough".

NEWS IN SUMMARY

A Russian sues KGB for £10,000

Moscow.—A Soviet court ruled that it did not have authority to give judgment in the first known case of a citizen suing the KGB security police.

Viktor Tomachinsky claimed 13,400 roubles (about £10,000) from the Soviet Interior Ministry and the KGB as compensation for earnings he alleged he had lost because the authorities had broken a promise to give him a visa to emigrate and work in the United States.

Mr Tomachinsky, aged 36, a motor mechanic, argued his case without the help of a lawyer during a half-hour hearing at the Moscow City Court. He told the three judges that in January the Interior Ministry and the KGB formally agreed to grant him a visa to emigrate. But the authorities had broken the agreement and Soviet law by failing to issue a visa to him or his family, he added.

The case was attended by 18 relatives, friends and acquaintances of Mr Tomachinsky and by Western correspondents. The judges, one man and two women, listened impassively during the hearing and, after a 15-minute recess, ruled that the case was beyond their jurisdiction.

El Salvador wins OAS support

Castries, St Lucia.—El Salvador won a diplomatic triumph when the Organization of American States voted overwhelmingly in support of its United States-backed junta and its election plans for 1982.

A motion of support, presented to the annual assembly of the organization by El Salvador, Costa Rica and Honduras, was passed with 22 votes in favour, three against and four abstentions. The vote was seen as a regional rejection of a Franco-Mexican declaration last August which recognized leftist guerrillas fighting to topple the Salvadorean junta as a politically representative force.

In last night's vote Mexico, Grenada and Nicaragua voted against the motion while Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago, St Lucia, and Panama abstained. The motion also condemned any act that constituted a "violation of the principle of non-intervention" and said El Salvador's internal problems could only be resolved by El Salvador itself.

Robot kills man in factory

Tokyo.—A factory maintenance worker was fatally injured when a robot suddenly started up, struck him in the back and pinned him against another machine. It was Japan's first recorded death in a mishap involving an industrial robot.

The incident occurred last July at a Tokyo factory but was reported only after an investigation had been completed. The inquiry said the victim was guilty of carelessness but also found that safety measures in the plant were inadequate.

Gunmen pull off biggest robbery

Sydney.—Two identically dressed gunmen in stocking masks took A$3m (about £1.8m) worth of jewels in what police say is Australia's biggest robbery.

The men, both armed with heavy calibre pistols, forced a security guard to turn off alarm systems and video monitors at Darlington Commodities, the country's biggest dealer in gold bullion, diamonds and precious gems.

Days of wine and business

Tokyo.—Ever anxious to fete their guests and keep the wheels of commerce moving, Japanese corporations last year spent a record 3,100bn yen (about £7,380m) on entertainment, according to a new survey by the national tax administration. The year's corporate bill for wining and dining customers at restaurants and night clubs, giving them gifts and leading them around golf links rose 7.2 per cent over the previous year's total of more than 2,900bn yen, an agency spokesman said. The latest survey canvassed the hospitality practices of nearly 1.5 million companies for the year ending on January 31, 1981. Wholesales and construction companies topped the list of big spenders.

German general wins peace medal

Berlin.—General Gert Bastian of West Germany who has been campaigning against Nato rearmament plans, has been awarded a medal by the International League for Human Rights, its West Berlin spokesman said.

General Bastian left the armed forces last year after being relieved of the command of a tank division for criticizing plans to station new United States medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe.

Shopper shot at road block

Turin.—Paramilitary police shot and killed a Christmas shopper who reached too quickly for his identity card at a road block here. Two policemen have been killed in Rome and a third wounded in right-wing terrorist attacks in the past few days.

Creationism case curb is rejected

From Our Correspondent
Little Rock, Arkansas, Dec 8

Creationism was emphatically called a religion by a witness today in the Little Rock court hearing the American Civil Liberties Union's challenge to the Arkansas law that requires state schools to give balanced treatment to creationism and the theory of evolution.

Dr Michael Ruse, a professor of the history of the philosophy of science at the University of Ontario, testified that creationists did not meet the necessary qualifications of science.

"Science has to be explanatory, testable, falsifiable and tentative. As a body of knowledge it has got to be public, objective, respectable and honest", he said.

"But creation science is not explanatory because of its ad hoc hypotheses that are not scientific but evoke a creator. It is not tentative because nothing is going to shake their belief.

"It is not responsible because it plays sleight of hand by quoting evolutionists out of context, and it is not honest because it claims to be scientific yet it is pushing religious beliefs.

"Creation science is not a science, it is a religion", he said.

He was cross-examined by Mr David Williams, the assistant state Attorney-General, who suggested that creationism was at least as scientific as evolution.

On the opening day the ACLU attacked the Act by attempting to prove that creationism was a product of fundamentalist religion and therefore violated the First Amendment that separates state and religion.

The first witness called by the ACLU was Bishop Kenneth Hicks, head of the United Methodist Church of Arkansas.

"I believe God created us", he said. "But it belittles God to try and circumscribe how he did it." He suggested the description in *Genesis* was simply a peg for ideas of greater principle. He also said the new law had been introduced by people who adhered to a literal view of creation.

The law, due to come into force next year, requires that teaching creationism be limited to scientific evidence supporting the sum creation of the universe, energy and life from nothing.

Mitterrand booed and cheered by managers

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Dec 8

President Mitterrand was greeted with boos and catcalls from an audience of French businessmen when he mentioned nationalizations. They cheered when he condemned excessive bureaucracy and praised profit and the spirit of enterprise as the driving force of business—provided it was the just reward of effort and was fairly distributed among those who had helped to create it.

It was his first major speech to businessmen and industrialists since he took office six months ago and it climaxed in an eloquent and impassioned appeal for their support in meeting the economic challenges which face the country.

The occasion was the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales, the leading business school in the country, whose role, he emphasized, had not merely been eminent in the past, but would be so in the future "because France needs firms which are alive, active, and turned both towards the outside world and the internal market".

It is rare for a French audience—and particularly one of this kind, by definition respectful of hierarchies, and of the presidential office—to express such public and outspoken disagreement with the head of state to his face.

M Mitterrand obviously expected his reception. "You see I am right to say nationalizations are the subject of much debate," he remarked in response to the catcalls. "But that debate will be decided not here, but in parliament."

Once the nationalizations were through, 17 per cent of French production would be in the hands of the public sector, against 12 per cent so far. "This is less than the proportion in Austria and Italy", he added, to a gale of derisory laughter. "I am sure I am addressing a suffienctly informed audience for it to go and look up the facts for itself," he retorted.

The President said, though, that the nationalized industries must not be hemmed in by a paralysing bureaucracy and should operate in normal conditions of competition.

"As for the private sector, I want it to benefit from the public sector. What I have said about nationalizations was not meant to convince you, but to bring home to you that the contract between the Government and the voters will be fulfilled.

"But once that is done the rules of the game will be set and all firms outside the scope of nationalizations will remain the private sector, until a new contract is passed with the nation."

The President said, to loud applause, that it was conceivable that a future head of state might reduce the scope of nationalizations.

On France's economic difficulties, he said: "We will not emerge from the crisis without a formidable spirit of enterprise on the scale of the whole nation. But to conjure it up and to combine it with the project I have for France, some conditions have to be fulfilled in both the private and public sector.

"We need an industrial strategy for France. We need to encourage advanced technology industries without abandoning traditional industries. Nationalizations are necessary to promote investment within the framework of democratic planning."

M Mitterrand claimed, to gasps of disbelief, that the Government had tried to ease the burden of costs on firms. Social security contributions, a subject of much concern, he admitted, would not increase next year.

All forecasts showed that the Government's targets for next year could be achieved: a growth rate of 3 per cent; a slowing down of the rate of inflation in spite of 35,000m francs (about £3,200m) injected into the economy; a sharp increase in exports; a deficit and public debt among the lowest in the EEC.

"Enterprises are places where wealth is created. They are instruments of progress. You have it in you to create this wealth, and I am sure that you can do so."

He agreed with the president of the Paris Chamber of Commerce that employers must be regarded not as opponents, but as partners. "But perhaps they too must understand that they too should regard the country's rulers not as opponents, but as partners.

"I appeal to their patriotism and their spirit of enterprise. But if the spirit of enterprise must be defended, all those who work in trade and industry must feel at ease in them. There can be no economic progress without social progress."

Hostages go free as jets land in Cuba

Caracas, Dec 8.—The three Venezuelan airliners hijacked yesterday on domestic flights here have landed in Havana.

All passengers and crew on the two Aeropostal DC9s and the Avensa Airlines Boeing 727 were released unharmed and taken to an hotel. The hijackers are believed to have surrendered to the authorities.

The three aircraft were taken to a secluded part of Jose Marti airport.

There were no reports of injury to the mostly Venezuelan passengers by the hijackers. At various times one or other of the three jets touched down in Colombia, the Dutch Antilles island of Aruba, Honduras, Guatemala and Panama. Some of the hostages were released in return for more fuel.

A spokesman for the hijackers said they belonged to a group called the Ramon Emeterio Betance Command, named after a nineteenth century Puerto Rican nationalist.

Ten fire engines, five ambulances and two airport buses were seen moving from the area. The buses appeared to be carrying between 100 and 150 people.

The Cuban Government maintained silence on what was going on at the airport.

All three airliners had taken off from Caracas but about a dozen heavily armed leftists. They forced the pilots to fly to the Colombian Caribbean port of Barranquilla.

The hijackers demanded the release of seven people whom they described as political prisoners in Venezuela and a $10,000 (£5,500) ransom.

There were originally more than 250 passengers on board the three aircraft, but the hijackers released many of them in stops along the route in exchange for fuel and food. There are now thought to be about 140 people on board.

In Caracas, the Venezuelan Government said it had rejected the hijackers' demands Señor Rafael Andres Montes de Oca, the Interior Minister, told reporters his Government would not consider negotiating with criminals.—AP, Reuter.

□ Beirut: The Libyan airliner that was hijacked yesterday by Lebanese Muslim zealots landed at Beirut airport tonight after making two unsuccessful attempts to touch down, witnesses reported.

Lebanese Shia militiamen from the Amal movement took over sections of the airport as the Boeing 727 with 38 people on board landed at 7.18 pm (GMT).

The aircraft, hijacked while on a flight from Zurich to Tripoli, had flown first to Beirut, then to Athens and Rome.

The hijackers are demanding the release of Imam Moussa Sadr, a leader of the Lebanese Shia Muslims, whom they believed was being held in Libya, but is almost certainly dead.—AFP, AP.

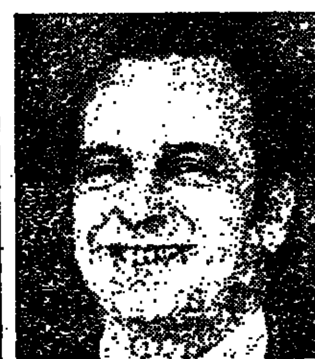
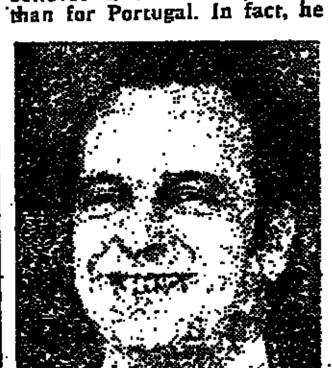
Balsemão seeks help in joining Community

By David Spanier

Relaxed, but alert and concerned, the personification of a modern Social Democrat, Dr Francisco Pinto Balsemao, former editor of *Expresso*, recently reappointed as Portuguese Prime Minister, is making a point of meeting British Social Democratic Party leaders during his brief visit to London.

Yesterday, he saw Mr William Rodgers and today he meets Mrs Shirley Williams in what could be the start of an international SDP front. The Portuguese and British parties have much in common, including the idea of finding a middle way between the established political groupings.

The purpose of Dr Balsemao's visit is to discuss Portugal's prospects of joining the EEC. His main concern, as he will explain to Mrs Margaret Thatcher, today, is that Portuguese entry should not be held up because of difficulties over negotiating Spain's membership, which he believes is more complicated than for Portugal. In fact, he would like the way for Portuguese entry to be cleared during 1982.

Dr Pinto Balsemao: In search of "fifth way" in politics.

Although still a majority share-holder in the weekly newspaper *Expresso*, Dr Balsemao says that the paper is entirely independent, and free to criticize his policies. "It is a strange situation, but I have no influence on the paper, I am just a dirty capitalist now."

The Social Democrats, under his leadership, are seeking what Dr Balsemao calls the "fifth way" between the orthodoxies of Marxism and Socialism on the left, and conservatism and classical liberalism on the right. He believes that the political orthodoxies cannot meet the challenges of the 1980s, either social or economic.

"What the Portuguese people expect is for the Government to stop the inflation of words and policies, and try to solve the real problems which so many times are relegated to a secondary position, because of the excess of verbalism."

So far he has shown rare talent in seeking an agreed opinion, notably in persuading the Christian Democrats to work with him in coalition. His programme seeks nationalization not as a way of collectivizing the means of production, but as an instrument to be used pragmatically. Likewise he favours joint control of industries by management and workers.

There are difficulties in Portugal, partly because the successful holding of elections did not in itself solve the problems of moving to a new constitution. He believes he will be able to find the necessary two-thirds majority to change the constitution and bring the military Council of the Revolution under political control.

SALIM IS OUT OF ELECTION

From Our Correspondent
New York, Dec 8

Mr Salim Ahmed Salim, the Foreign Minister of Tanzania and the Third World choice for United Nations Secretary General, today asked for his name to be withdrawn from further balloting in the Security Council as it appeared more and more likely that a compromise candidate would emerge.

Mr Salim made his announcement at a press conference after a final, but fruitless effort to persuade the United States to support his candidacy.

It appeared unlikely that Dr Kurt Waldheim, the present holder of the post, who made a similar announcement last week, would be reconsidered by the Council and given an extension to his term.

The expectation now is that the Council will begin consultations on the seven compromise candidates.

The list includes Señor Javier Perez de Cuella of Peru; Señor Carlos Ortiz de Rozas, the Argentine Ambassador to Britain; Señor Jorge Castaneda, the Foreign Minister of Mexico; Señor Jorge Illueca, the Foreign Minister of Panama; Mr Shridath Ramphal, of Guyana, the Common wealth Secretary General; Mr Radha Krishna Ramphul of Mauritius; and Prince Sadrud din Aga Khan, the former United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Prince Sadruddin was emerging as the favourite.

Papandreou threatens Nato's Cyprus peace formula

From Henry Stanhope, Brussels, Dec 8

Nato's peace formula in the Greek-Turkish dispute over Cyprus and the Aegean was threatened tonight after the Greek Socialist Government spelt out its opposition to the main proposals. Nato defence ministers are meeting here.

Greece left the military wing of Nato after the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974, but returned a year ago under the plan worked out by General Bernard Rogers, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander in Europe.

At a press conference in Brussels tonight Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister, who is also Defence Minister, said the agreement was under "partial suspension" and that a process of "partial disengagement" from its provision had already begun.

He refused to say exactly what his government was disengaging from, but it would seem to be the arrangement worked out by General Rogers on joint Greek and Turkish control of military air space in the Aegean.

Greece presumably wants to return to the old order, under which it retained almost complete control of the airspace of the Aegean, with its 3,000 Greek islands. Under the Rogers plan airspace control was divided between two flight information regions, one at Larissa in Greece and the other at Izmir, in Turkey.

Earlier today Mr Papandreou outlined his position to other Nato ministers at the meeting of the alliance's Defence Planning Committee. Last night he said he told the allies that his Government found the Rogers agreement militarily and politically unacceptable.

"As a result a process has begun which puts the agreement under partial suspension." Until now, he said, Greece had observed all her obligations under the plan.

"The Greek people, when they voted in the last election, and more recently the Greek Parliament, have authorized my government to undertake measures necessary to ensure the security of our country and to legitimize our interests.

"It is within this framework that we are forced to consider a process of disengagement from the agreement, which is prejudicial to Greece, does not guarantee our frontiers and undermines the existing status quo in the Aegean, which has been established by international agreements and treaties."

Although an ally within Nato, Turkey posed a threat to his country's security, Mr Papandreou said. It was a unique situation in Nato where other countries could protect their own territorial integrity by joining the alliance. In the case of Turkey a threat actually came from another ally to the east.

Greek threats to the Rogers plan must be taken seriously by the alliance because a return to the previous situation in the Aegean would be unacceptable to the Turks, as Mr Umit Haluk Bayulken, their Defence Minister, made clear today.

How seriously the new outbreak of Greek-Turkish hostility will affect the alliance in the end remains to be seen. Today's exchange was at least restrained and there were references to olive branches and more bilateral talks, anxiously encouraged by Dr Joseph Luns, Nato's Secretary-General. Mr John Nott, Britain's Defence Secretary, has also offered to help in any way possible.

On the accession of Spain to the alliance, a sentence welcoming the initiative of Madrid in applying for membership was confirmed without demur at today's session.

There are other arguments which could also divide the ministers this week, among them the wrangle over money.

□ The five conditions set today by Mr Papandreou for Greece to remain within the integrated military structure of Nato are as follows (Our Athens Correspondent writes):

1. Abrogation of the Rogers agreement especially the provision concerning the establishment of a Nato headquarters in Larisa which "essentially partitions the Aegean". This is non-negotiable.
2. Safeguards for a genuine balance of forces in the Aegean, i.e. between Greece and Turkey, which would be real, and not based on fixed ratios.
3. Protection and defence of the entire air, land, sea and sub-sea area of Greece in peacetime must be the exclusive responsibility of the Greeks.
4. Guarantees for Greece's eastern frontiers against any threat:
5. Withdrawal of all foreign occupation forces from Cyprus,

Polish Primate speaks against emergency law

The Primate of Poland, Archbishop Jozep Glemp, in a letter to all members of the Warsaw Parliament warned of the serious consequences that could result from the adoption of a law giving the Government emergency powers.

Mr Janusz Zablocki, an MP who heads the Catholic-Social Polish Union (Formerly ZNAK), said the letter, signed by Archbishop Glemp and MGR Bronislaw Dabrowski the secretary of the conference of Polish bishops in the name of the Church, was addressed to the Parliamentary President (Speaker) and to parliamentary leaders.

The adoption of an Emergency Powers Law, advocated by the sixth plenum of the Communist Party's central committee, might "disturb domestic peace, break off ties of understanding so difficult to establish, and spark off a serious social conflict", the letter says.

Referring to Solidarity's decision to call a general strike if the Government introduced emergency legislation, the letter says: "The country is not currently threatened by large-scale strikes", but members of the independent union might force a strike if such legislation were adopted.

"Considering the welfare of workers, along with that of the State, the Church, which has shared for a thousand years the good and bad fortunes of our nation, warns the popular republic's Parliament against the adoption of a decision that would tragically weigh on the destiny of our country", the message says — AFP.

□ The Polish Communist Party, alarmed at the large number of defections from its ranks, is to hold a high level meeting tomorrow to consider how membership can be increased urgently (Roger Boyes writes).

The Polish Communist Party, alarmed at the large number of defections from its ranks, is to hold a high level meeting tomorrow to consider how membership can be increased urgently.

The commission on "party life" which advises the policy-making Central Committee will try to define, if not cure, the malaise in the party and work out how it can meet the challenge from Solidarity, the independent trade union organization.

Membership of the party has fallen from 3.2 million to significantly below 2.5 million since the strikes of August 1980, while Solidarity can claim a membership of between nine million and 10 million members.

It is from this position of grass roots weakness that political leadership is having to negotiate on power-sharing arrangements with Solidarity.

According to Mr Wlodimierz Mokrzyszczak, an alternate member of the ruling Politburo, over the past 15 months about 244,000 have left the party and 180,000 have been expelled.

The expulsions were either because of the members' radical reformist tendencies or because they were too closely associated with the rule of the now disgraced Polish leader, Mr Edward Gierek. Mr Gierek himself has been expelled from the party.

If the defections from the party had been confined to this level, the leadership could probably have tolerated the situation. But local Communist activists talk of many more *de facto* defections, of a widespread reluctance to attend party meetings and at best only passive participation in party work in factories.

Most disturbing of all for the Polish leadership is the fact that party committees at factories — responsible largely for ideological guidance — are constantly being challenged by Solidarity.

Alexeyeva sent away from visa office

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Dec 8

Miss Liza Alexeyeva, the 26-year-old woman married by proxy to the stepson of Dr Andrei Sakharov, told Western correspondents this evening that the exiled physicist was in very poor health, but she believed he was not being force-fed in hospital in Gorkiy.

Miss Alexeyeva said she spent 20 minutes discussing the case today on the telephone with Dr Anatoly Alexandrov, the President of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, of which Dr Sakharov is still a member.

He told her he was concerned about the health of Dr Sakharov, who began a hunger strike on November 22 in support of Miss Alexeyeva's efforts to get an exit visa to go to the United States. She concluded that though now in hospital, where *Izvestia* said on Friday he had been taken to prevent his health worsening, he was not being force-fed as friends of his family had feared.

Miss Alexeyeva had no success this evening in her attempt to get permission from the KGB security police to visit Dr Sakharov and his wife Yelena. She went to the KGB headquarters but was not given an answer by the officer handling the case.

Earlier today, looking tired and dejected, she told correspondents she had been turned away this morning from the Soviet visa office where she had been summoned to discuss her application. Officials had said the inspector with whom she had an appointment at 11.00 was ill. She was not given any date for a new meeting.

Emigration claim weak in Soviet law

In a Soviet context, Miss Alexeyeva's claim that she should be granted an exit visa to join Dr Sakharov's stepson, Mr Alexei Semyonov, in the United States rests on slender legal grounds.

Not only do the Russians insist there is no valid reason for her leaving the Soviet Union, but her application is at variance with a number of important points of Soviet law, which evidently take precedence over undertakings on Freedom of emigration made at Helsinki. By comparison with other Soviet citizens seeking to emigrate, her case is a weak one. There are dozens of people legally married to foreigners whom Western consular officials consider have stronger grounds for leaving.

The Russians recognize only one valid reason for emigration: family reunification. Soviet law maintains that as the Soviet Union provides all social, human and economic rights to its citizens, they have no reason to leave the country other than to join immediate members of their family overseas. In effect, this means that emigrants must either be married to a foreigner, or produce evidence, such as a letter of invitation, that they have a relative living abroad.

Russians marrying foreigners must do so in a civil registry office, known as zags, where births, marriages, deaths and changes in a citizen's status are recorded.

Miss Alexeyeva's marriage to Mr Semyonov is invalid under Soviet law on two counts. Mr Semyonov was previously married to another Soviet citizen and his divorce has no been registered under Soviet law; and the Russians, like most other countries, do not recognize marriage by proxy.

There are only two American states acknowledging such a ceremony. Soviet law insists on an international procedure recognized within the Soviet Union as far as its own citizens are concerned.

Marriage to a foreigner is not an automatic entitlement to an exit visa, though it provides grounds for application. A visa maybe refused if the applicant has had access to state secrets or classified information.

An emigrant must obtain the written permission of all members of his or her family. Family reunification should not be used to disunite existing families in the country, and the applicant must produce documentary approval from surviving parents and grandparents.



The shapes of the religion that shapes a contented people

Letter from Rangoon

The Three Stooges arrive in land where Buddha rules

Television is new in Burma But some of its fodder is old. If you ever wondered what happened to "The Three Stooges" who made British and American children laugh in cinemas 30 years ago, you might like to know they are here on television making the Burmese guffaw and roll in their seats.

Television sets are few. Even on the black market they cost £2,000, and the average income is about £100 a year. Many people go to hotels to watch some of the two hours of programmes transmitted every day.

The Burmese television films are action-filled and the Westerns are in the original American. The news is as turgid as in the controlled newspapers, but thanks to the crisp colour of the imported Japanese television system — the women newsreaders look lovely in their silk.

Burmese women have the dignity that springs from an equality not found in all parts of Asia. They do not hang behind or hide their faces. They look you in the eye; and, *à propos* of faces, they smear them with sandalwood paste, which looks like marzipan and is said to be death to pimples.

They receive equal pay and, like the men, smoke great 8 in cheroots and wear the same nether integument, a long skirt or "longyi". Burmese never worry about what to do with their hands. They untie the "longyi" and re-knot it a hundred times a day. And they hoist it to their armpits when they have their daily bath.

They are easygoing, and courteous and have road manners, too. Their 34 millions are a manageable population. They have boiled over only occasionaly and do not go in much for killing each other. Only about five criminals have been hanged in 20 years. The crime level is low and although the police are tough, their presence in not outwardly heavy.

General Ne Win the Burmese leader has, in any case, never shrunk from ruthlessness. In the past he has jailed hundreds of people at the first sign of trouble. Party informers ensure that any eruptions in the universities are promptly flattened. A mellower General Ne Win, perhaps with an eye on the Great Scorer, has of late tried to make it up to some of the people he jailed by awarding them handsome pensions.

Pensions and perquisites are part of the Burmese socialist system. The great majority live, eat and smoke simply. The higher orders have access to cars, housing and exclusive shops.

They can also play golf, the recreational motif of General Ne Win's reign. He is an addict. In a country with *penal tariff barriers* golf clubs are duty free.

The majority, however, content themselves with football and *chinlon*, a game whose object is to keep a cane ball in the air. Street football is played seriously in Rangoon. At critical moments a referee with a whistle holds up traffic while an attack is completed, rather as if traffic were to be halted in Oxford Street so that Arsenal could surge towards Marble Arch.

The people cannot go to races because the Government has banned racing. But they go in large numbers to the cinema. A good seat costs 21p and current Western films include *The Champ* and *Oliver's Story*.

A Burmese girl said she liked Western films because they made her cry. "And I like to cry. I also like hearing English."

On General Ne Win's orders English is being restored to its former important place in the school curriculum. It was relegated some years ago and standards have dropped.

Now Burma finds it needs the language, and it is said that General Ne Win ordered the promotion of English when his daughter's inadequate command of it led to her failure to get advanced medical training in Britain.

Modern English books and magazines are not plentiful. Well thumbed paperbacks are sold by pavement vendors.

Some of the books are very old, like the lumbering 1940s Chevrolet cars, relics of an America with money to burn, which do taxi work.

Seeing these monsters parked outside a hotel in Rangoon is like seeing a shot from an old Hollywood film on Burmese television. Rangoon itself seems to live in another age. Many of its buildings, handsome colonial Gothic, are moss-covered. With the dilapidated pavements they provide an air of gentle neglect. The once mighty, now musty, Strand Hotel still serves the lunches of Empire; and its lost-property cupboard holds mildewed razors and earrings left behind 40 years ago.

Out of the cities, as you can see on the 12-hour train journey from Mandalay to Rangoon, Burma is a country of immense beauty. Emerald paddy fields stretch to distant blue hills. Soon the straw-hatted peasants will be harvesting a record crop; a record, that is, for the regime. There is still some way to go before the harvests of 40 years ago are equalled.

Evidence of the religion which shapes a modest and relatively contented people is everywhere. Blink and you miss a pagoda. The large and famous ones, tiled with gold and barnacled with jewels, have already been visited by thoughtless travellers so that their guardians have had to erect signs saying: "Do not wear bra-less" and "no footwearing".

A Burmese said: "Buddhism helps us to take life as it comes. Whatever the regime, it will always be the most important part of our lives. Things have changed; the regime has introduced an element of suspicion and caution, a looking over the shoulder, that was not with us before. But we still have our sense of humour."

The enduring face of Burma

Trevor Fishlock

Seychelles failure shows Pretoria's flair for self-injury

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Dec 8

If nothing else, the failed coup in the Seychelles has once again demonstrated South Africa's infinite capacity for shooting into its own goal. Even if the South African authorities are totally innocent in the affair it is certain now that no one will ever believe it.

At almost every turn the South African Government has managed to make itself look ridiculous, issuing a string of ministerial statements and self-justifications which have fuelled rather than dampened suspicion.

The sorry tale began on the day of the arrival in Durban of the hijacked Air India Boeing with a stern assurance from Mr Hendrik Schoeman, the Minister of Transport, that the full rigour of South Arican law would be deployed against those involved. Within days, however, 39 of the 44 men who commandeered the aircraft had been released without charge, and the remaining five let out on bail on a charge of "kidnapping".

Pressed to explain the release of the 39 Mr Louis Le Grange, the Minister of Police, responded with the immortal words: "You tell me what laws they broke in South Africa . . . They only shot out some windows and ran around in the bush". This is already being compared to the notorious "it leaves me cold" comment of Mr James Kruger, the former Minister of Justice, on the death of the Black Consciousness leader, Steve Biko.

Even while Mr Le Grange's comments were reverberating around the world his colleague at the Ministry of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, was produced to say that the 39 alleged mercenaries might still be prosecuted after all, and that a charge of hijacking might still be brought against the five ringleaders.

Mr Pieter Botha, the Prime Minister, admonished those calling for firmer action, reminding them that South Africa was a country ruled by "Dutch Roman law", and the law had to be allowed to take its course. Mr Roeloff Botha, the Foreign Minister, added for good measure that in South Africa men were "innocent until proved guilty".

The gale of hollow laughter that greeted that remark, only a week after the detention without trial of 17 trade unionists and students for exercising what in most countries would be accepted as a routine right of political opposition, has still not died away.

Then came categoric and indignant denials from the Prime Minister and other members of the government of the involvement of South African police or security personnel in the attempted Seychelles coup, denials shot to pieces the next day by the revelations of Mr Martin Dolinchek, one of the South Africans captured in Seychelles.

It was also belatedly disclosed that an inquiry had been set up to look into allegations that South African soldiers might have been among the mercenaries.

The unanswered question is whether, in the words of Dr Frederik Van Zyl Slabbert, the Leader of the opposition, the Government is simply "stumbling from one *faux pas* to another" or whether its gyrations conceal some much more sinister involvement in the Seychelles debacle.

Most observers here find it difficult to believe that the authorities were unaware of the plans for the coup attempt.

But while the South Africans may have done little to discourage the plotters there are few convincing reasons for thinking that they would have wanted to be actively involved in the planning and initiating of the coup attempt. It is hard to see any gain from such a venture, even if successful, that would have justified the risks.

After Mr Mancham's overthrow, the landing rights in Seychelles of South African aircraft were withdrawn and a number of economic deals which had been under consideration collapsed. But the Government has continued to welcome South African tourists, arguing that "tourists are a bounty" wherever they come from.

Moi sends telegram to deny Kenya involvement

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi, Dec 8

President Moi of Kenya angrily denied today that his country had been involved in the recent plot to overthrow the Seychelles Government.

He sent a telegram to President Albert Rene of the Seychelles denying the reports coming from the Seychelles quoting a captured South African mercenary.

The captured man, Mr Matine Dolinchek, who identified himself as a member of the South African intelligence service, said yesterday that a new government for the Seychelles would have flown to the islands from Kenya, which was also to send troops to the islands to replace the Tanzanian troops now supporting President René.

The Kenyan Cabinet issued a press statement here today describing the allegations as ridiculous and absurd.

President Moi's telegram says: "I am dismayed by international media reports alleging that one of the mercenaries implicated Kenya in the recent attempted coup in Seychelles.

"Your country and mine have enjoyed cordial relations since independence, and it is ridiculous and absurd for anyone to try to harm these relations with malicious and unfounded allegations.

"I would like to emphasize that Kenya is not associated in any way with recent events in Seychelles. Kenya has already, in fact, publicly condemned the attack by mercenaries against the Seychelles."

The Cabinet's press statement notes that Kenya has an exemplary record in its relations with other countries. "Kenya is not involved in any way in the recent coup attempt in the Seychelles and does not wish to be dragged into any aspect of it", the statement adds.

The surprising reports from the Seychelles have dismayed Kenyans. They were not reported on Kenya radio or in today's newspapers here, but were widely broadcast from overseas radio stations and were widely known in Kenya.

Solidarity faces a media offensive

By Our Foreign Staff

For the past three days the Polish authorities have been conducting an offensive in the media against the independent trade union Solidarity using as proof of the union's aims some taped statements leaked from a Solidarity National Committee meeting in Radom over the weekend.

The taped remarks, which Solidarity says are genuine but used out of context by the official media to give a false picture of the union, have been broadcast repeatedly in a special programme entitled: "Who wants confrontation?" and widely reprinted in the press.

In the tapes various speakers, including Mr Lech Walesa, Solidarity's leader, heard discussing topics including control of the economy, establishment of a provisional government and formation of worker militia groups. The meeting eventually produced a statement much milder than the taped comments suggest.

The following are extracts from the tapes published as "key formulations" by the Polish news agency PAP and provided by the BBC monitoring service:

Walesa: "Confrontation is inevitable and it will take place. I wanted to get to this confrontation in a natural way, when virtually all the social groups would be with us.

"However, I have miscalculated . . . It turns out that we will not move along this road any further. So, we are picking a road for a lightning speed manoeuvre . . . We are being aware that we are dismantling this system."

Jacek Kuron: "The issue of election and a new electoral law, total negation of the so-called government provisional pre-reform, system and the state of emergency should become the field of confrontation. The ground must be well prepared already today by action to overpower the authorities."

Jan Rulewski: Chairman of Solidarity's Bydgoszcz area: "An attack should be launched at any cost on the Voivodship (regional) authorities to discredit them completely before the election."

A. Sobierij: "Solidarity groups should substitute their actions for some activities by the Administration, push back the municipal and Voivodship authorities at every price

Low Russian profile

From Olli Kivinen, Helsinki, Dec 8

Soviet interference in Finland's presidential election campaign, predicted by many Western observers, has not materilized. The Soviet Union, so far at least, has kept an extremely low profile.

President Brezhnev has sent three separate messages in which he spoke about relations between Finland and the Soviet Union. Thay were worded in a way that could in no way be described as even the slightest dislike of the leading candidate, Mr Mauno Koivisto, the Prime Minister and the acting President, even though the Stalinist wing of the Finnish Communist Party opposes Mr Koivisto viciously.

Unofficially Soviet diplomats have admitted their "hands off" orders which were publicly confirmed by Mr Victor Vladimirov, a leading political councillor in the Soviet Embassy. He said in an interview with Finnish radio that the Soviet leadership trusted in the continuity of Finland's foreign policy, whoever is elected President.

The signing of a Soviet-Finnish trade agreement last week proceeded in a most businesslike atmosphere.

The only important Soviet newspaper opinion express-

Spanish Army urged to abide by law

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, Dec 8

Señor Alberto Oliart, the Spanish Defence Minister, today urged the country's armed forces to understand that "no authority is any more than false unless it is based on the law". He appealed for a reaffirmation by all officers of their respect for a legitimate government.

The minister was at one of the chief infantry regiments of the Brunete division, outside Madrid. He spoke about the extreme right-wing army officers' "manifesto of the one hundred" at the weekend and also defended the Government's record in fighting terrorism and the decision to join Nato.

At the weekend the military authorities put 100 officers and non-commissioned officers under 14 days' house arrest for issuing a statement which criticized the country's press and politicians and which was timed to coincide with the third anniversary of the referendum approving the constitution. Sympathy was expressed for officers indicted in the failed coup plot in February.

Today Señor Oliart promised that all the armed forces' "worries, ideas and opinions", where they concerned the services, would be attended to. He told the officers that the highest expression of discipline came when they obeyed, acting against personal conviction for the sake of the constitution.

It is considered that the manifesto had not been sufficiently condemned in a second note from the Joint Chiefs of Staff, which was read in all barracks yesterday.

The note concentrated most of its fire on condemning the methods of procedure of the captains and lieutenants in not going through their superiors with any complaints. It warned other officers against showing solidarity with the signatories, who are now under fourteen days' arrest, not in barracks, but in their own homes.

There was tension today as the Brunete officers, whose corps is the biggest in the Spanish Army, celebrated their saint's day, traditionally an occasion for elaborate displays of camaraderie. Infantry officers from the division, which was involved in the February coup attempt, were among the manifesto signers.

Cinema

Narrative powers

David Lean, after more than a decade away from the cinema, is back — to a project film-makers have long and vainly dreamed of . . .

A Passage to India has remained one of the great novels of the century untouched by the cinema. All that is set to change. David Lean is to film it for Lord Brabourne and Richard Goodwin in conjunction with EMI, with one hundred per cent British financing. Shooting begins next autumn and Brabourne and Goodwin are currently in India agreeing the use of certain locations with Mrs Gandhi.

During his lifetime E. M. Forster had no lack of offers for the rights to his book but he turned them all down because he claimed that the film industry could not be trusted to preserve the delicate balance between the British and Indian elements of the story. Towards the theatre he was more charitable. *A Passage to India* was adapted for the stage and directed by Frank Hauser at the Oxford Playhouse in 1960 before transferring to the Comedy in the West End. At the time dramatized novels were much in vogue: *Howard's End* and *A Room with a View* followed later from Prospect Productions. Forster certainly approved of what Oxford did to him and in the Penguin edition there is a brief tribute to the "excellent and sensitive dramatic version" by Santha Rama Rau. And it is to Miss Rau that David Lean has turned for the screenplay.

Both of the film's producers have Indian connexions. Richard Goodwin was born in Bombay and Lord Brabourne is married to the daughter of the late Louis Mountbatten, last Viceroy of India. Perhaps it was this plus a deal of hard talking that persuaded King's College, Cambridge, Forster's literary executors, to yield them the rights a year and a half ago.

David Lean is modest about his own involvement. "When John Brabourne rang me about three months past I wondered what on earth he wanted, although it was at the back of my mind that he had acquired the *India* rights. He said that he had a short list of six possible directors for the film and that I was at the *top* of it. Well, that sort of offer you cannot refuse. I had put in my own bid many years back, inspired by seeing the stage version at the Comedy. I approached Forster via a mutual friend, Moura Budberg, but like everyone else was turned down. I think that Forster was simply terrified of the cinema."

Is maintaining the balance between the British and Indian elements, Forster's main fear or alibi according to how you view it, the principal problem in shaping the film? Or was it the question of what *did* happen in the Marabar Caves, where Miss Quested, an English-woman visiting India, goes with a young Indian doctor whom she accuses of assault?

"Both are soluble. There is a story that Forster was once asked what really happened in the caves and he fixed his questioner with a steely eye and said 'Well, what do *you* think?'. No, the main difficulty at the moment is with Miss Quested. I've reread the novel several times now and although I feel very familiar with all the other leading characters I really still do not know who she is. She remains a wraith and of course that will not do, even if you have the excuse that she is a very under-written character. If you are making a movie you have got to tell the actors *what* the men and women thay are playing are thinking. You must come down to reality.

"But one or two ideas are beginning to formulate. I want a young actress. The first impact of India on anyone is interesting, but on a person who is just becoming sexully aware it is enormous. Miss Quested has to be attractive, otherwise she falls into the come-along-now-dear-and-just-pull-yourself-together category. Of course, you can have a cardboard cut-out and walk her through the plot, but that would be totally unsatisfying. I want films where the audiences come out discussing the characters they've just been watching, films like *Citizen Kane*."



Lean (left) on Forster: "I think he was simply terrified of the cinema"

Lean's first contact with India came at Alexander Korda's behest. Korda reckoned that Lean had a good eye and could make an excellent film about the Taj Mahal. To Lean's complaint that he knew nothing about the country Korda's response was to tell him that he was booked on a plane there the next Monday. Nothing came of the project. However, Lean's second wife was Indian and he did go some way down the road to making a life of Gandhi with Alec Guinness in the lead.

"I haven't seen Dickie Attenborough's *Gandhi* yet, but to date I don't think that anyone has really captured India on the screen, with the possible exception of parts of Renoir's *The River*. It's the same with Africa, although W. S. Van Dyke's *Trader Horn* is possibly the exception here. That got the smell of it."

So *A Passage to India* is going to be a mighty challenge not least because Lean, a very fit 73, has made no film since *Ryan's Daughter*, released over a decade ago. Part of the intervening years have gone on his proposed remake of *Mutiny on the Bounty*, which collapsed after much-publicized disagreements between Lean and Dino de Laurentiis. As far as Lean is concerned it is a dead duck and "the saddest dead duck of my career".

He has regarded himself throughout his work in films, which really got under way when he edited *Pygmalion* back in 1938, as an entertainer. "I switched on television the other night during an educational broadcast and the first two words I heard were 'Study narrative'. Quite right. I like telling stories: it may be out of fashion at the moment in some circles, but it has been with us since we lived in caves — and not the Marabar ones. I like working for big screens and big cinemas, not tiny art houses. Noel Coward long, long ago, possibly when we were working together on *In Which We Serve*, said to me 'Do what pleases you and, if what pleases you does not please the public, then get out of show business'. Good advice. So I have always tried to make something I'd be willing to pay my own money to see."

John Higgins

Concerts

LSO/Mata

Festival Hall

Profuse as was Diaghilev's bequest to posterity, one might claim that the two outstanding scores from the many which he commissioned are Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloë* and Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*. Both are also superb vehicles of orchestral virtuosity, as could be heard on Monday when the London Symphony Orchestra played them both under Eduardo Mata.

Daphnis, monument of suave euphony and Hellenic grace, was treated to glorious woodwind solos, not only the famous brilliant ones but, for example, that for cor anglais when Chloë inplores her pirate captors to set her free. It was, not inevitably but gratifyingly, given with benefit of the London Symphony Chorus.

Mata made the most of the red-blooded music, the episodes of the pirates, Pan's intervention, and the "Danse génerale" at the end. The LSO were encouraged to exult in them, and the same vitality spilled over into much else in the "choreographic symphony", as Ravel called it. Yet, after the performance, memory retained a total impression of Arcadian serenity. There were some surprises also in Mata's reading of *The Rite*. The chords at the beginning of the second part sounded more intricate than in most performances: he had made sure that all the orchestral voices would be heard — this was a closely detailed account, but not clinical, indeed particularly rich in barbaric solemnity and explosive force. In the "Rite of the Elders" the alto flute solo in even semiquavers began indistinctly: Mata was following Stravinsky's dynamics which require the bassoon to be louder there.

More predictably Mata emphasized the savage splendour of the orchestral colours, especially calling upon the LSO brass for darkly glowing ardour. This was a reading of pulsating energy relieved by the sudden static tableaux when man contemplates the implacable immensity of nature. Stravinsky might have disapproved of the orgiastic enthusiasm, and I would not want to hear this approach every day; but it is there in the music, and it made marvellous listening.

William Mann

Kirshbaum/Benson

St John's/Radio 3

Among the chamber music of Benjamin Britten, which is providing a linking theme for the present series of BBC Lunchtime Concerts at St John's, Smith Square, the cellist Ralph Kirshbaum and the pianist Clifford Benson chose one of the most significant works as the centrepiece of their programme on Monday. It was the Sonata in C of 1961 that signalled the composer's return to instrumental music after a long period of almost entirely vocal composition.

The first of several works prompted by the special talents of Rostropovich, the Sonata contains a marvellous range of character and technique within its five movements. Mr Kirshbaum and Mr Benson were notably impressive in building the first movement into a cognet musical argument, and in generating an eloquent intensity of feeling for the central Elegia. Something more pungent from the cellist's pizzicati would have improved the Scherzo movement, but the March and Finale were admirably played in relation to their differences of character.

At the outset of the concert the cellist appeared alone for the Suite No 1 of Bach, in which his sonorous richness of tone and security of pitch were put to rewarding musical purpose. He was especially skilful in relating a discreet accentuation of phrasing to the rhythmic pulse of each movement. Virtuosity of a different order was forthcoming in Chopin's *Introduction and Polonaise Brilliane* which ended the programme, the cellist and pianist responsively matched in the blithe exuberance they brought to the work's substance as well as its light-hearted spirit.

Noël Goodwin

Theatre

Happy Lies

Albany Empire

Having survived arson and compulsory purchase, the Albany Combination team now find themselves in possession of a magnificent £3m arts and community centre (Douglas Way, Deptford: 691 8016), and with no grant to mount any work of their own.

For whatever reason the Combination fell victim to the last Arts Council purge (nothing to do with its artistic standards, according to Sir Roy Shaw), I hope a council assessor will find time to take a look at the complex, with its workshops, rehearsal rooms, studio, and 300-seat circus auditorium (including the first onlookers' bar in London since the demolition of the Edgware Road Met), and consider the waste of leaving this community-created outfit to squander its potential on rock concerts and fly-by-night road shows.

Thanks to a project grant, allowing the Combination to tour a play and then bring it in to base, there is at least a homegrown opening production, offering a sample of what the team might bring to the area if they are given the chance to get on with their work.

C. P. Taylor's *Happy Lies* is a brilliantly constructed little parable showing this writer's rare capacity to get inside his characters' skins while firmly telling his own story: in this case a penfriendship between a working-class Willesden teenage boy and a crippled Indian girl, who make contact through a school poster, and are held together by the boy's dream of doing something to help her. That is one meaning of the title; and it leads to a series of tragi-farcical collisions between dream and reality as Derek scours the Willesden area for wheelchairs (but how to get one to India?) and Kamala was herself carried to school on the back of a long-suffering Christian Aid lady.

The piece is in the form of dramatized letters, and one of its virtues is that everything from Derek's warring parents to the amazing scenic transformation of a church into a rubbish truck (set by Kate Owen) is presented from the teenagers' viewpoint. Tim Roth's Derek strikes the exact balance of generous enthusiasm and defeated callousness. Debby Bishop's Kamala, pulling herself to her feet on a stick, falling, and then doing it again, supplies one image that speaks for adolescence and for much more.

Irving Wardle

Television

A play very much for today

United Kingdom made up for a lot of *Borgias*: stuff rather than nonsense, the stuff of life in a council block where life-styles are audible, compactness emphasises the disadvantages of togetherness, and economic theory is less a debating point than the sharp end of its malpractice. This was the setting for Jim Allen's ironically-titled Play for Today (BBC 1) and the "Today" was apposite.

A council has refused to accept government cuts and a commissioner, "a pin-striped assassin", is sent in to run the authority. The ousted council meets elsewhere, bugged by the Special Branch; the council offices are beleaguered by pickets. Who would say that it could not happen here?

The Chief Constable is a hard man; not so much a community policeman, more a disciple of the sharp, short shock school, a believer in surgery rather than preventive medicine. He knows a tense situation when he sees one and adjusts himself for it like a gourmet sitting up to what he knows will be an excellent meal.

The rebel councillors are, as they would be, a disparate lot, but united by a strong sense of injustice. One is a politically active mother whose unemployed husband, once a shop steward, has decided that it is more peaceful at least to bear the slings and arrows rather than take up arms — a juxtaposition of attitudes that makes for domestic discord. The pot boils over when the councillors lay hold of the computer tapes without which the commissioner cannot operate, and take them to the council block. For Chief Constable McBride, this is it: you must have law and order even at the cost of justice.

Allen: political exile

So we enter another area of present concern: how heavy should the police be? The arguments were allowed for. McBride is countered by an officer favouring a gentler approach but, as he is not quite a counterweight, he loses and in goes the heavy mob to the barricaded block.

And that is it: victory for Chief Constable McBride but not, one understands, a final one, and two and half hours of television that make one think the BBC is not so bad after all and that £46 may be fair enough. I understand they had some apprehension about it but I do not think it could be classed as a party political broadcast for anybody, except perhaps the disenfranchised and, if so, why not? The situation was possible, the reaction probable, and the consequences have too many parallels for our comfort. Jim Allen used a medium that is necessarily selective in its reporting to draw some issues together and confront us with a present actuality.

Roland Joffe directed tightly and superbly. The actors had meat and relished it. Colin Welland, bluff and very bulky, made McBride almost the ultimate deterrent. Val McLane and Ricky Tomlinson, the councillor and her temporarily defeated husband, had warmth and conjugal credibility. Antony Hebron mastered a difficult task as their young son. There were excellent performances from Bill Paterson, Peter Kerrigan, Peter Copley and Rosemary Morton, whose careerist MP, strong on empathy but short on action, should have caused some blushes.

Dennis Hackett

'I don't want to give lectures'

Jim Allen, author of *United Kingdom*, was booted out of the Labour Party in 1962 and he has not been able to get back in. "I ran a Gaitskell-must-go campaign, but he stayed and I went", he explains. He has since applied twice to rejoin, but to no effect. The last rejection was two months ago. "Before that I had a visit from two members of the executive who asked me to give assurances about my behaviour. I pointed out the door. I don't know why they won't have me, they've got Healey."

So now, at the age of 53, he lives in magnificent political exile in a former vicarage near Manchester with a wife and five children. The only platforms for his views have been 20 television plays, all of them marked by a gritty and relentless commitment to telling the political truth as he sees it.

He began by editing *The Miner* when he worked down a pit. His reign there led to him being blacked by everybody in sight and pursued by an enraged Communist Party. Then, via scaffolding, firefighting and docking, he returned to writing when a play was rejected by Granada but generated sufficient enthusiasm for them to invite him to contribute to *Coronation Street*. Eighteen months later he teamed up with Tony Garnett and wrote *The Lump*, a penetrating view of life in the building trade. His mark was made.

Perhaps the pinnacle of his achievement so far is *The Spongers*, made with Roland Joffe, who also directed *United Kingdom*. That won the Prix Italia. *United Kingdom* arose as a result of a conversation he had with Joffe and Kenith Trodd, the producer. Allen said he believed the local government system in this country was about to blow sky-high under pressure from central government interference. "Ken accepted the analysis and said okay, go ahead and write the play."

But what is it for? "I'm not naive enough to believe a film can change things. I just hope it can ring a few bells and stir people up. I would love to think that Labour councils would fight back, but at the moment they are lacking leadership. I would like to see some kind of genuine resistance as long as it doesn't deteriorate into just anarchistic chanting of slogans."

All the commitment in the world does not make good writing. "The difficult thing is not the politics, it's making them real: getting the feeling in families trapped in the situations. I don't want to give lectures or send carrier pigeons with commercials."

Allen remains dubious about working outside television. He feels he writes feature films anyway, which just happen to be made for television, but he does look longingly at feature film budgets. One script about Ireland entitled *The Rising* was taken round Wardour Street by Tony Garnett but there were no buyers, leaving Allen to conclude his future lay with the small screen. So television looks like being the venue for his next work — a play about unilateralism and the threat of war.

Bryan Appleyard

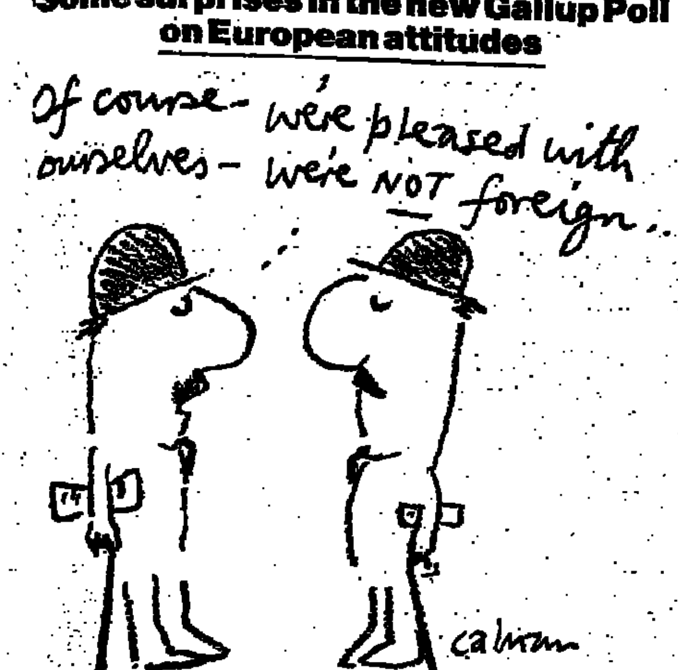








Some surprises in the new Gallup Poll on European attitudes



More work, please, we're British

Stand by to revise your generalizations about the British and their continental neighbours. According to a poll published last night, the British, far from being slap-dash moaners, take the most pride in their work and are, with the Irish, the most satisfied with their lot.

The Italians are neither carefree nor gregarious, but the loneliest and least sociable of the West Europeans surveyed, while the French are second only to the Danes in godlessness, as well as the most cynical and immoral.

Such, in crude terms, are some of the conclusions suggested by the largest poll ever undertaken on social, moral and political issues. Conducted over three years by the Amsterdam-based European Value Systems study group (a foundation advised by senior European academics under Dr J. Kerkhops of Louvain University in Belgium), its interim findings are only part of a wider exercise, which has been coordinated — and conducted in Britain — by Gallup Poll, under Mr Gordon Heald.

Roughly 1,200 people were questioned in each country (around 300 in Northern Ireland).

Everyday life: Germans are very intolerant

It was striking that the Italians, reputedly addicted to *Bambini* and extended families, showed the strongest preference for spending leisure time alone, and were much the least anxious to spend it with their family. They and the Northern Irish were keenest on seeing their friends.

The Danes and Dutch were the most avid daily newspaper readers: 87 per cent reckoned to read one regularly, against 83 per cent of Britons, though the latter were — with the Irish (North and South) — predictably the most addicted TV watchers.

Remarkably, more than half the Italians questioned confessed to feeling "very lonely" frequently or sometimes, with the Spaniards on their heels. Perhaps they were just more honest. Danes and Britons were least lonely, and — with the Irish — much the happiest and most satisfied with life. Twice as many Northern Irish felt satisfied as French, who came bottom on that score.

The same Irish, Danes, Northern Irish and Britons had the highest opinion of their own state of health, about which the West Germans were gloomiest, followed by the Italians and Spaniards.

The West Germans also objected most strongly to left or right-wing extremists, heavy drinkers, minority religious cults and immigrant workers as potential neighbours. The Belgians topped those anxious to avoid people — of different race, the Irish similarly anxious to avoid those with criminal records.

Only 22 per cent of the French thought most people could be trusted (against 43 per cent of Britons), and almost three-quarters felt "you can't be too careful in dealing with people".

Work: British take most pride in their jobs

A surprising 79 per cent of Britons — and 71 per cent of Irish — took "a great deal" of pride in their work while only 13 per cent of French and 15 per cent of Germans did so. Indeed, 17 per cent of French and 11 per cent of Germans took no pride at all in their's, against one per cent of Britons. The British however were more than twice as prone as the Germans to feel exploited.

No very clear relationship emerged between good pay and the importance attached to it. Low-paid Spaniards and high-paid Germans rated its importance highest, the well-paid Danes much the lowest, with the British in the middle. With the Dutch and Danes, the British were the most satisfied with their household's financial situation.

The Germans were far the most demanding about their jobs, being the keenest on security, promotion prospects, chances for initiative, respect from others, a sense of achievement, responsibility and a good match with their abilities. The British attached more importance than others to the job being interesting.

Morality: French keenest on adultery and theft

The British, followed rather unexpectedly by the Danes, were much the most willing to fight for their country, the Belgians the least. The British were readier than any but the Italians and Spaniards to risk their own life to save another's. The Spaniards were most ready to die for country, justice, freedon and peace; the Germans and Danes conspicuously reluctant to do so for any cause.

The Irish — North and South — were readiest to risk life for their religious beliefs, and topped the church-going league with the Spaniards *and Italians, with the Danes*, British and French at the bottom. But more Danes than Northern Irish felt they were of a religious nature, while the French, British and Germans felt least religious and the French sample included far the most convinced atheists.

God, life after death, the devil, heaven and hell found most believers, unsurprisingly, in Ireland, Spain and Italy: 66 per cent of Northern Irish believed in the devil, compared with 12 per cent of Danes, and the gap yawned equally wide on heaven. More than a quarter of French and Danish respondents said God was not at all important in their lives.

Taxed on the Ten Commandments, the French were much the readiest to have other gods, take the Lord's name in vain, kill (with the Belgians), commit adultery (29 per cent felt the commandment did not apply to them, as did 21 per cent of Italians and Dutch, 9 per cent

I'm not sure I believe in Denmark...

calman

of Britons and five per cent of Irish), to steal and to covet their neighbour's wife.

The Danes, however, were even less inclined to keep the Sabbath holy, while the Dutch and Spaniards were readier to bear false witness against their neighbour and to covet his goods. The British had the highest faith in the application of the commandments to others, the Danes the lowest, with the Northern Irish sceptical of adherence to "thou shalt not *kill*".

Family life: British make strictest parents

More than twice as many Belgians as Germans felt they had been "very close" as children to their parents. The British felt closer than most, but topped the "very strict" parents poll with the Northern Irish and French.

There were some apparent inconsistencies. The Germans felt relaxed least often, yet less anxious than any but the Danes, and much the most often aggressive. The British and Danes tended to feel happy, relaxed, secure and satisfied with home life most frequently, along with the Irish (north and south), and with the Italians and Spaniards at the other end of the scale.

The Irish attached most weight — and the Germans least — to a similar social background as a factor in a successful marriage. The French rated fidelity lower than others, and gave greatest weight to living apart from in-laws, while the British were keenest on a happy sexual relationship.

Among qualities children should learn at home, the French and Germans gave the lowest priority to good manners, while the latter attached high importance to independence and responsibility, very little to obedience (cherished by the Northern Irish), and far the most to leadership.

Politics: Spaniards yearn for revolution

Broadly, the countries with the severest internal problems — Belgium, Italy, Northern Ireland — registered the lowest interest in politics. The French and Germans showed the most active interest (with the British not far behind), and Germans and Danes were most prone to political discussion. If the British were readiest to sign petitions, the French were most prepared to join boycotts, demonstrate, strike unofficially and occupy buildings or factories.

Weighing the importance of personal freedom and equality, the British gave much the greatest weight to freedom. The French, Italians and Spaniards put themselves further on the "left"; the Irish, British, Northern Irish, Belgians and Dutch furthest "right". The French and Spaniards were keenest on revolutionary change.

Not unexpectedly, the British had much the most confidence in their police and armed forces, and the Irish — less predictably — and British were proudest of their nationality (Dutch and Germans least so). Far more Italians than others considered themselves regular drinkers, while Northern Ireland had much the most abstainers, Denmark fewest.

Conclusion: Nords are happier than Latins

To what conclusions are we led? The British and Irish (including the Northern Irish) emerge as above averagely satisfied with their lot, despite their relative poverty. They are patriotic, have faith in their institutions and in human nature, and take pride (possibly unjustified) in their work.

The French are ungodly, immoral, leftish and revolutionary, but it does not make them very happy. The Germans are a volatile, demanding lot, oscillating between neurosis and happiness and cherishing qualities deemed missing in their past.

The Belgians are the most family-minded, but low on tolerance of others. The Dutch are Mr and Mrs Average, and the Danes are the best adjusted and most tolerant of all, though the least godly. The Spaniards are strikingly idealistic but not very happy, while the Italians are given to solitude, self-pity and the bottle.

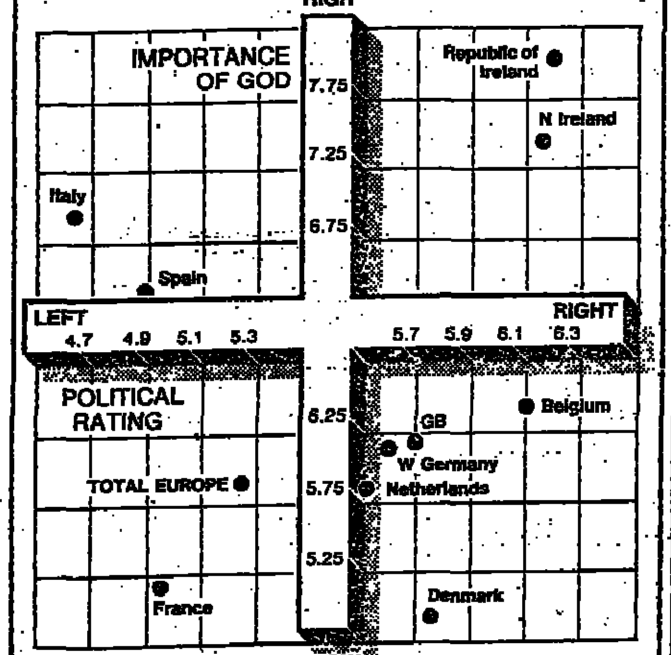
The Nordic peoples indeed seem happier than the Latins — though it could be that they are simply less complacent. Initial analysis of the computerized findings suggests that religious background and political views are the two biggest factors influencing — and reflecting — our values today. Ultimately the study will be able to pinpoint whether, say, a left-wing Italian Roman Catholic with six children who covets his neighbour's wife is more or less likely to accept bribes in the course of duty or evade taxes than a right-wing Belgian who believes in euthanasia and felt very close to his mother.

More shocking revelations are on the way: results are now coming in from Japan, the USA, South Africa and South America.

Roger Berthoud

The author was The Times *correspondent in Bonn and Brussels.*

Where they stand on God and politics



How Europeans rated themselves on a political scale (left=1, right=10) and on a religious scale (God not important to them=1, God very important=10)

Tonight, from a field of 90, the name of The Times/Veuve Clicquot Businesswoman of the Year is announced. Caroline Moorehead reviews the finalists.



'Being a woman? If anything a distinct advantage.'

Valerie Aggett, 30, principal and managing director of Holborn Law Tutors Ltd. Married in May to a chartered accountant. No children. Father: boiler engineer. Educated at Bury Grammar school, took a 2:1 law degree at Durham University. One year's consultancy for Holborn Law Tutors led to radical report on need to restructure College and subsequent *appointment to do so.* Turnover risen from £66,000 in 1976 to £700,000 for 1982.



'In business I meet men who are far more emotional, more feminine than I am.'

Jean Wadlow, early forties. Managing director of Wadlow Grosvenor Productions. Divorced. No children. Father: owned printing works in Essex. Private school on the East coast of Scotland, then became European shorthand champion at Gregg College. Started as a secretary in a City office. At 21 joined an advertising agency, becoming *its television director at 27.* Own company for four years, estimated turnover £1m.



'I don't intend to lose my femininity — but then nor do I want to be pampered'

Gisela Burg. 42. Managing director Expotus Ltd. Single. Father an academic in Germany. Left a ladies' college in Rhineland with ambition to become an air hostess. Came to London to learn English, decided to stay, joining a company importing parts for loudspeakers. Seven years later founded her own export company, becoming the first woman *to sell hi-fi* equipment to Japan. Turnover of Expotus in 1980: £2.1m.



'As a woman, it took me longer to prove I could do things.'

Jennifer Loss, 41, managing director, Charles Jourdan. Father: Joe Loss, the bandleader. Married to an industrial designer. Four children. Left St Paul's Girls School and French Lycée secretarial section to work as bilingual secretary for Charles Jourdan. 1966: took over responsibility for wholesale side of business. 1972: became general manager.



'I like to see the astonishment when customers call for the manager and I appear.'

Anne Gowland, 31, general manager, Debenhams Nottingham. Married 10 years. No children. Father in the tannery business. Left school at 16 with O levels to work in a bank. Joined the Debenham group at 19; rose steadily year by year to present position as No 2 in a store employing 300 people. In the retail trade her age is more surprising, given her success, than the fact that she is a woman.

In search of the woman at the top

Five finalists from a field of some 90 candidates — directors, chairman, financial controllers, general managers — have already been selected for qualities that range from entrepreneurialism to organizing ability, from degree of financial responsibility to *what the guidelines call* simply "power" (and, in passing, screened for scandals or alcoholism). Only the winner among them is still a secret.

This is the ninth year that the prize — prestige, champagne and a vine named in honour of the winner — has been given in memory of the 27-year-old widow of a vineyard owner who in the early nineteenth century invented "remuage" (shaking bottles in the racks to clarify the wine) and sold her champagne throughout the world while the Napoleonic wars raged about her.

Candidates are proposed by friends or colleagues and selected by a mixed panel of *Times* and Veuve Clicquot judges. Mrs Thatcher had 50 nominations the first year (only one this year). Shirley Williams is the only other politician to have been proposed — and that was only once. The Queen regularly gets one vote.

The five 1981 finalists are aged between their early thirties and early forties; three are married but only one has children. All work appallingly long hours: at least a 12 hour day, rarely getting to the office after 8.30, but they resist taking work home at weekends.

Of the five, two — Valerie Aggett, a solicitor who runs a law cramming college and Jean Wadlow, who has her own film and video company — take no holidays at all. Gisela Burg closes her export company for 10 days over Christmas. It is a life all five are addicted to.

How did these five women — four managing directors and one general manager — *reach their present positions?* Interestingly, not by background or family pressure. Only one, Valerie Aggett, has a degree. The others left school early, took secretarial courses and worked only because they had to earn a living.

For the others it was largely a case of luck and a late awakening. Gisela Burg, who now runs her own export company with an annual turnover of over £2m, was filling in time in London waiting to be an air hostess with Lufthansa when she fell in love with the country and decided to stay, taking a job as a bilingual secretary.

Over the next seven years she became convinced that small British firms, particularly in the sound electronics business, were not sufficiently aware of their export possibilities. She borrowed £500 (her bank manager told her helpfully that she should get married instead) and, set up her own company as export consultant.

Jennifer Loss's career began even more suddenly: since no one considered her intelligent enough to take A levels, she did a secretarial course, then left her name with one of the agencies. Today she is managing director of the firm in England.

For the two finalists who have had to compete in the City, it was being blocked because of their sex that led to their careers. Valerie Aggett, completing her articled clerkship with Clifford Turner, looked around and concluded that there were no women partners in the prestigious law firms. She became consultant for a school of law tutors then took over, at 27, its directorship. In 1976 there were *scarcely 50 pupils*; today, thanks to her regular promotion trips throughout the Far East, there are over 700.

But once luck intervened, all five women were quick to respond. Anne Gowland dithered about on leaving school, did some computer training for the Midland Bank, then worked as a rep for an American curtain manufacturer. Then she joined the Debenham's group as a buyer's clerk in the fashion department.

It was 1970, the year that boutique fashions and the teenage market took off around the country. Progressing rapidly year by year, Anne Gowland found herself eventually checked only by a company rule that demanded total mobility of its employees. Being married, she was stuck in Leeds. But then her husband started working from home, and home could be anywhere: since then the Gowlands have moved as her job dictates, and there has been no further break in her climb.

For most of them the travelling is ceaseless. Gisela Burg is out of her office in Holborn as much as four to five months a year, preferring to settle problems by catching day planes from Heathrow to the European cities she deals with, and making long trips to Japan, the main market for her business.

As a result of their work, home life for the five is much reduced. All five women regard weekends as private. For Jennifer Loss they are the bare minimum she can spend with children and friends in a life geared closely to the synagogue (she is president of the Weybridge synagogue). For Jean Wadlow, they provide time to shop for clothes or go to the Reform Club, of which she was one of the first three women members; for Gisela Burg to play golf (handicap: 36), or watch her race horse, Mink Coat, as he exercises; for Valerie Aggett to make trips on her motor cruiser.

They have all more or less abandoned the theatre, movies or dinner parties. If they are left with a private life at all, it is because all seem to share a highly organized and practical attitude towards domesticity: they eat out a great deal, employ cleaning ladies, and order groceries from Harrods. Not one seemed oppressed by domestic muddle.

There is, however, another pressure. To live the lives they lead, these business women need to look good — or feel they do — even if all were surprisingly firm that being a woman in male hierarchies demanded little more than having to work a bit harder, keep promises and be especially patient. Like the domestic chores, clothes become an administrative detail which has to be coped with, decisively and with the least fuss.

Jennifer Loss, for instance, hates shopping and simply chooses her clothes from the Charles Jourdan collection; Jean Wadlow shops always from Chlöe or Yves St Laurent; Valerie Aggett goes to Paris twice a year. Gisela Burg wears suits; when she travels, she takes a colour scheme. All have regular appointments with hairdressers they know; all — except for Jennifer Loss — have immaculately painted finger nails.

The need for style is not confined to clothes. Offices are made to look unusualy nice: plants, good furniture, little details of design like curious ashtrays or remarkable waste paper baskets, to "soften the surroundings" as one put it.

Jean Wadlow has had her private office — a highly scented room — painted stippled pink and filled it with brightly papered objects; she has taken beige and brown as her colour theme for the board room, and signs her letters in brown ink on beige paper.

Valerie Aggett has a luminous emerald pile carpet, brown and beige leather chairs and a marble round table; clusters of chrome hanging lights, like bunches of glowing grapes, drop from the ceiling.

The question of children hangs over all their lives. Jennifer Loss, who has four, spoke instantly about the guilt and her anxieties that they suffer from her job. Valerie Aggett and Anne Gowland, both in their very early thirties, are still thinking of having children, but agree that their jobs would have to change or go altogether. Jean Wadlow was adamant: "My business comes first. It always has. I never wanted children."

Only Gisela Burg hesitated at the question, and it was she who best expressed the absolutely clear and unresolvable gap for a woman between full blown business and a family.

She has a slightly wistful tone. "In a perfect world, I might have a family first, become involved in business later. I don't know..." For her, as for Jean Wadlow, the two are simply not compatible.

Henry Fairlie

How do you operate a secret service in public?



William Colby, then Director of the CIA, called in 1975 before a Congressional public hearing into the Agency's activities in the United States

The executive order which President Reagan issued last Friday, redefining the basic framework within which the American intelligence agencies must operate, occupied one and a half closely printed pages of Saturday's papers. It was conceived last March, when Admiral Bobby Ray Inman, the new deputy director of the CIA, said that it was being prepared. Nine months later, it has been born.

During this period of gestation, it has been through many drafts. As far back as last March, a 16-page typewritten draft was leaked. A penultimate draft went the rounds in Washington only a month ago. Each successive draft provoked bipartisan opposition from the Senate Intelligence Committee and some sections of the press. The final order bears all the marks, for good and for bad, of this prolonged and difficult travail.

The Administration originally wished to remove many of the restrictions which were imposed during the 1970s on spying and counterespionage within the United States. The new executive order does remove some of these restrictions and, for the first time, it explicitly authorizes the CIA to engage in covert operations at home. But it has not gone nearly as far in this direction as it intended last March.

It has dropped most of the provisions in earlier drafts that were opposed by the intelligence committees in both the Senate and the House. The new order does not, for example, permit the CIA to infiltrate, and try to disrupt or influence organizations of law-abiding Americans, except with a court warrant. The Administration has bent, significantly if not surprisingly, to the strength of one section of opinion.

One has sometimes been amazed in recent years that America can run an intelligence service at all. The extreme sensitivity to all threats to constitutional rights, even where the needs of national security might seem to be paramount, and the recent insistence on Congressional supervsion of intelligence activities, always leave one wondering if the intelligence agencies can operate with any secrecy.

Some former agents of the CIA have not hesitated in recent years to seek and obtain notoriety by revealing the names of clandestine agents now in the field. Their sleazy actions are discussed as if they were no more than breaches of contract. Treason is treated as a tort. But the whole American system leads one to expect clandestine agents to be interviewed on the breakfast-time magazine programmes on television.

The extraordinarily thorough investigation of the intelligence agencies which was conducted by the Church Committee in the mid-1970s revealed a host of malpractices in which they had been regularly indulging. The extent of these malpractices, which only it could have revealed, justified the investigation. But at the same time its very thoroughness made one uneasy at the precedents it might be thought to set, and the conclusions that might be drawn.

The intelligence community became increasingly demoralized under frequently unfair attack. In response to the revelations of malpractices, Jimmy Carter in his own executive order in 1978, and with the full cooperation of his own director of the CIA, curtailed its activities both at home and abroad, drastically reduced the numbers of its experienced agents, tied its hands, and came near to stopping its ears and putting out its eyes.

With the fall of the Shah, the taking of the American hostages in Teheran, and the invasion of Afghanistan, the demoralization of American intelligence was obvious. By the early spring of 1980, Carter had reversed his attitude. The man who in his 1976 campaign had sworn to tear away "the veils of secrecy" behind which the CIA operated was seeking in congress to restore at least some of them.

But this new effort was quite as curious as the earlier one. The CIA was to be bolstered by giving its most unlovely activities a framework of legality. This was to be done by submitting it to the benevolent oversight of Congress and the courts. Its covert actions would be undertaken either with the knowledge of Congressional committees or by warrant from the courts. The CIA would be freed a little, but it would seem legalized.

Mr Walter Pforzheimer, the first legal counsel of the CIA in the 1940s, raised wondering eyebrows. Under the charter which was being proposed, United States courts would be given the odd responsibility of authorizing violations of foreign law, by isssuing warrants for break-ins of surveillance overseas; and even of taking actions which under the laws of some countries would be regarded as criminal conspiracy.

So absurd was the arrangement which was being contemplated that the American Bar Association even formed a panel to consider the subtleties of intelligence law. Alice had passed through the looking glass and was in Wonderland. Mr Pforzheimer could not contain his mockery. "Every CIA case officer", he said, "will have his own lawyer." Why not, indeed? Even schoolchildren in America now retain their own lawyers.

Every time the CIA planned a sensitive mission abroad, he pointed out, its lawyers would talk to the lawyers of the Congressional committees. When the CIA wanted to wire tap a suspected foreign spy at home, its lawyers could talk to the Justice Department's lawyers, who could then talk to the judges on special intelligence courts. This proposed new charter died even before the President and Congress who had thought it up.

The executive order issue by President Reagan last week avoids these more ludicrous pitfalls. Yet the wish to appear to legalize what in effect are and must be the illegal activities of the intelligence agencies has been at the root of the controversy over its successive drafts. It is a persistent danger in the American system to diminish the authority of the courts and Congress by using them for inappropriate purposes.

The investigative power of congressional committees is a superb instrument of legislative supervision. But it works best, as with the Church Committee on intelligence, when it is retrospective. If it is used to try to control the executive in advance, especially in so awkward a field as intelligence, the effect is either to paralyze the executive, or to appear to endorse the action which the executive takes. Inviting the courts to endorse illegal actions by the executive is obviously even more dangerous.

Few activities of government are more properly within its realm and its realm alone than both domestic and overseas intelligence.

The restoration of the efficiency and morale of the American intelligence community should be the business of the President acting through the directors of the various agencies, whom he has appointed or reappointed. Even under the new order, it is still being divided. Neither agents in the field nor case officers at home can yet assume a clear chain of command or responsibility.

Mr Sam Halpern a former field and then administrative officer of the CIA of high reputation, said last year: "Somewhere, somehow, someone has to be trusted". In the nasty and dangerous business of intelligence, one would have thought that this was plain. The trust cannot be nurtured by Congress or the courts. Mr Reagan's order is better than Mr Carter's order. But it still does not bode well for American intelligence. Or for its allies who have a right to depend on it.

He shaped our times

With his resignation yesterday as chairman of Times Newspapers Holdings Ltd, and from the Board at the end of this year, Sir Denis Hamilton is severing his final connexions with The Times, The Sunday Times and The Times supplements — a newspaper group with which he had been associated for 35 years. As the announcement was made, he spoke to Anthony Holden.



Sir Denis: handing on

When Denis Hamilton distinguished himself in the Second World War — rising with remarkable speed to the rank of lieutenant-colonel at 25, winning a DSO on the way — the *Newcastle Chronicle* reported his progress with particular pride. Not merely was he a local boy made good; he had been a cub reporter on the paper before enlisting.

The paper's proprietor, Lord Kemsley, took an even closer interest. On demobilization, Hamilton had returned to the paper as a £10-a-week reporter, despite personal counsel from Monty that he should stay in the army. Characteristically playing a hunch, Kemsley invited Hamilton, then 28, to London to be his personal assistant. Within two years Hamilton was editorial director of the Kemsley group with a seat on the board.

Sitting in his darkening office yesterday, his Coldstream portrait of Roy Thomson looking beadily on, Sir Denis recalled his meteoric rise with continuing disbelief. "I was really replacing others who had borne the heat and burden of the war years. I had opted for journalism over university to my parents' great disappointment.

"My father was an engineer, like his father and grandfather before him. I had no journalism in my blood — unlike others I could name." (At this juncture he screwed up a piece of paper and threw it at the present writer, whose grandfather was one of many *Sunday Times* journalists Hamilton was subsequently to cherish and befriend).

"I was able, with others, to push Kemsley into a period of great expansion, of *The Sunday Times* as much as the regional newspapers. When Roy Thomson came along a few years later, the contrast could not have been greater. I doubt if Lord Kemsley ever went by tube in his later life, while Roy to his dying day was reluctant to take a taxi."

But Thomson too was prepared to invest heavily in *The Sunday Times*, of which he made Hamilton editor after he bought the paper in 1959. Monty's memoirs were serialized in 15 episodes, adding 100,000 to the paper's circulation and giving birth to the outlandish notion of the Sunday "Review Front".

Other such notions, mocked by competitors at the time, are now standard fare, indispensable elements of any self-respecting Sunday newspaper. Hamilton introduced the colour magazine and the business section. He launched the Insight team on its distinguished way. He recruited, among scores of the prominent names of post-war British journalism, William Rees-Mogg and Harold Evans, both to become editor of *The Times*.

In the trade, he is renowned for this as much as anything else: the seeking-out and nurturing of gifted young journalists, one of any editor's most creative qualities. He was also an exemplar of another: he was an editor always on his journalists' side, despite the pressures of the boardroom, and beyond.

Hamilton and Thomson, about whom he had at first been "somewhat dubious", took the same view of a modern editor's role. The proprietor would not interfere in editorial policy, but the editor must pull his weight commercially. Between them they put paid to the era of the editor who simply nudged the tiller while honing and polishing the first leader.

I have dwelt on his years at *The Sunday Times*, as Sir Denis himself did yesterday. There were other, ancillary achievements beyond the bounds of routine newspaper work: the great Tutankhamun and Chinese exhibitions, for instance. He believes, that newspapers should continue to burst their bonds in such enterprises. "Yes, my years as editor of *The Sunday Times* were my happiest.

"And yet . . . I know it sounds old-fashioned, and I often have my leg pulled about it, but commanding a great battalion provides the same kind of satisfaction. It is really much the same as editing a great newspaper. To have done both is to have achieved as much as any man might wish".

Since handing on *The Sunday Times* editorship in 1967, Sir Denis has spread his wings throughout the newspaper world and beyond. While remaining editor-in-chief and subsequently chairman of Times Newspapers, he has particularly prized his roles as a trustee of the British Museum and the British Library, as chairman of Reuters (which he remains), and sundry appointments in international newspaper organizations, in the training of journalists and as patron of the arts.

He was chairman of the board which approved Mr Rupert Murdoch's bid to take over Times Newspapers this year, and he pays Mr Murdoch, as he leaves, compliments which go beyond any mere cosmetics. "I just felt", "as I contemplated my 63rd birthday last weekend, that a transition period of some kind was complete. It was time for the old guard to hand on".

Now he looks forward to continuing his work at Reuters, to a new role as a member of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, and — if there's time — to a book on post-war British newspapers, "the serious ones, that is".

He will spend more time with his wife Olive, who is an author in her own right: "No editor can accomplish much without a supportive and understanding wife." He is intensely proud of his four sons, one of whom is in journalism and another the author of a prize-winning biography of Montgomery. His own memoirs, he thinks, might be "the ultimate vanity," though he has kept assiduous notes of the momentous times in his life, his meetings with presidents and prime ministers, princes and potentates, which have been legion.

"It's been a long chapter, and a very happy one. Now it's time, quite simply, to begin another."

Anthony Holden

Richard North on the rescue missions that put the Animal Liberation Front in the dock

The woman who would run Mr Fox to ground

Ellis Fox — his friends call him Rafe — runs what might loosely be called a farm; at Haywood, near the village of Askern, outside Doncaster in South Yorkshire. The Animal Liberation Front call it "a death camp", and characterize Ellis Fox as a murderer. Accordingly, they raided the farm last May, while Mr Fox was before Doncaster magistrates on no less than 52 charges arising out of his activities with animals.

Last week he made a reappearance at the magistrates' court, and was again sentenced under the Protection of Animals Act, 1911, on various charges of causing unnecessary suffering to animals. A few days later, on Monday, the leader of the ALF raiding party had her trial stopped in the Crown Court of this Yorkshire town. Susan Merrikin, formerly an RSPCA spare-time van driver who turned to radical action two years ago in despair at the slowness of more moderate methods, admitted that she removed dogs from Highfield Farm. But she denied that it had been robbery. The judge, failing to see evidence of force or dishonesty needed to uphold a robbery charge, would not let the case proceed. He bound her over to keep the peace for 12 months.

Ellis Fox is not a sadist, according to the local RSPCA inspector, Terry Spamer, who has done most to bring him to book. "I don't know what it is", he says. "He's just missing something. I think he deals in animals the way you might deal in second- hand cars or something".

Though Mr Fox may not take pleasure in hurting animals, he certainly does not seem to share any fraction of their suffering. And so it is that he runs Highfield, where cats, dogs, guinea pigs, rabbits, goats, sheep and ferrets have all lived, at different times, in what Terry Spamer calls "incredible and chronic overcrowding".

It was a man who visited Highfield Farm to buy budgies for his son who brought Mr Fox's farm to the attention of the authorities: they had been wondering where he was operating, having ceased to use his mother's house in nearby Bentley.

But dealing in pets is far from Ellis's main activity, particularly since he was sentenced for running a pet shop without a licence under the Pet Animals Act 1951. More recently, he was dealing in cats and dogs for the laboratory experiment trade. Banned from keeping dogs in May, he seems now to concentrate on goats and sheep for the Muslim meat trade: one of the charges brought against him had concerned his slaughtering of a goat for human consumption without a slaughterhouse licence.

These are both businesses in which there is plenty of room for back-door activity, and though they are often illegal, animal welfarists believe that the law is routinely made an ass where animals are concerned. For instance, in May, the magistrates, using the 1911 Act, could only ban Ellis Fox from keeping specified types of animals, and those the subject of charges. Last week they could have gone further — the Act allows them to do so for a second-time offender — but they chose to disqualify him from goat-keeping only.



Susan Merrikin: hot on the scent of animal cruelty

"What do they want to do?" demanded an outraged Sue Merrikin after the case: "Go through each of the species one by one? That would take forever." In spite of defence pleas of poverty, Terry Spamer believes the fines (£100 each on a handful of charges) will do little to deter Fox: "I think there'll be more problems in the future, personally".

The 1876 Cruelty to Animals Act, which controls laboratories performing experiments on animals — quite apart from what it allows once they are inside — has nothing to say on the supply of animals for research. Sue Merrikin and others have for years been trying to document pet-snatching in Nottingham and Yorkshire, which has reached epidemic proportions, according to Inspector Spamer.

"We don't control our breeders or suppliers in any way", says Dr James Deans Rankin, the Home Office's Chief Inspector under the 1876 Act (he and 13 inspectors police nearly 600 premises where experiments are licensed). There is an accreditation scheme run by the Medical Research Council, but it is not compulsory for labs to buy from members of it; and though it may do something for animal welfare that is not its main aim.

The Home Office Advisory Committee on Animal Experiments delivered its *Report to the Secretary of State on the framework of Legislation to replace the Cruelty to Animals Act 1876* earlier this year. It proposes controls on the supply of research animals, but its most crucial move, according to Lord Houghton, an expert and doughty animal welfarist, is to have found a way of involving the Home Secretary in "more responsibility than he will want to bear". Lord Houghton, who was behind the successful moves to "put animals into politics" in the 1979 election, believes that animal rights issues must be kept firmly in the public arena of the cause is to be furthered.

One of the leaders of Animal Liberation Front, Ronnie Lee, who has been jailed twice for liberating animals, says he avoids violence. Sue Merrikin concurs. However, their anger is very potent. Unfortunately, their control of other members, or people who identify with the movement, is less strong. But then, as Ronnie Lee said recently: "ALF is not an organization. It is a state of mind".

Why Latin is compulsory in the black Eton

An elite school modelled on Eton complete with all-British teachers, an ex-Eton "Dame", Mrs M. Breda, and with straw boaters to cap its green-and-gold uniform has been opened 85 miles north of Lilongwe, the Malawi capital. This extraordinary school, which goes against educational trends elsewhere in the Third World — where emphasis is laid less on academic than on practical skills — is a $17m (£8.5m) gift to the nation from President Hastings Kamuzu Banda, who led the fund-raising drive and contributed to the project out of his own pocket.

Dr Banda, it will be remembered, spent years in Britain before taking over the presidency when the British granted independence to Malawi in 1964. The school will prepare the country's brightest boys and girls for the best foreign universities; they will be drilled in the best traditions of British public school life: the arts, classics, sciences and games. Latin is compulsory.

No Africans will teach there because, President Banda has decreed, they do not meet his exacting standards; none has a sufficient grasp of Latin, Greek and ancient history and without these "they are not properly educated".

Kamuzu Academy has been built at Mtunthama in Kasungo district, where Banda first received lessons under a kachere tree, which is now a national monument. Its core syllabus will consist of intensive Latin, mathematics, English and science, history, geography, music and physical education, domestic science and technical subjects; but the principal university subjects are grouped into four major areas: classics, science, modern languages and the arts.

Like John Chaplin, the Scottish-born headmaster, the 20 male and four female teachers are all expatriates and products of the British educational system. Dr Banda takes a full interest in the school's affairs and has to approve all important decisions.

Snowtime

Shrieks down the phone yesterday at an absurdly early hour: "Come and play snowballs!" Who else but my six-year-old god-daughter? What are godfathers for, if not to comply immediately with such outrageous requests (said her mother). Unfortunately, however, the early morning flakes in our area would not stick together so Kate and her older brother got very grumpy, not to mention soaking. That meant coffee and croissants at a grown-up café,to soothe their spirits, and (would you believe?) ice cream to follow. I also had to promise to find out why yesterday's snow did not make good snowballs.

I had imagined it had something to do with the structure of snow crystals. Having once toured the Swiss Federal Snow and Avalanche Research Institute on the Weissfluhjoch, and seen their machine which can stretch a *single* snow crystal to its breaking point, I knew that the flakes, after they land, break into six-sided pellets, then into trapezoid form, then into small balls that are chiefly responsible for avalanches. But I was wrong.

THE TIMES DIARY



If the ninth Earl Nelson appears to have turned a blind eye to the brand-new Nelson Society, it is with good reason. After consenting to become president of the organization devoted to immortalizing the hero of Trafalgar, he failed to attend its inaugural meeting at the Norfolk Club in Norwich. However, this was largely because his duties as a detective sergeant at Hemel Hempstead police station in Hertfordshire would not allow it. The Earl, who succeeded to the title in September on the death of his uncle George, is somewhat diffident about the achievements of his ancestor and prefers the CID office to a seat in the House of Lords.

Det Sgt Peter John Horatio Nelson, 39, who lives in Berkhamsted with Lady Nelson (better known as Maureen, who has a part-time job at a motor dealer's office) is nevertheless expected to take a fuller part in the activities of the society when his time permits. The society was formed by James Saunders, a Liverpool printer, and a group of friends who believe that the national debt to Lord Nelson is being quickly forgotten. He has attracted other descendants of the admiral, who died 176 years ago, to the bosom of the society, and he plans newsletters, discussion meetings and visits to the Nelson Museum at Monmouth, HMS Victory at Portsmouth, and Nelson's birthplace in Norfolk.

Saunders said: "It is a pity the Bank of England forgot Nelson and put the Duke of Wellington on the back of £5 notes. There would have been no Waterloo without Trafalgar."

According to a helpful soul at the Meteorological Office, it all has to do with temperature. Below freezing, as it was in London in the early morning, small crystals of ice form in the snow and there is no surface tension to bind the crystals together. (The binding properties of surface tension are best seen through the meniscus on water which hinders insects trying to get away from it.) Above freezing, the surface tension does its stuff, snow falls as penny flakes, snowballs are big and juicy and snowmen easy to build. Adults can raise the temperature of the snow by pressing hard, but god-daughters of six may find this a problem.

All of which is, conceivably, more than you wanted to know about snowballs. But a promise is a promise — and I have no wish to get pelted next time there is an above-zero blizzard.

Amazing grace

Following my story about witty prayers being discussed at a dinner the other day, Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor has written in with his own favourite, which he attributes to a sporting Norfolk parson waiting for the start of a partridge drive: "Oh Lord, one at a time please, and all to me."

Robert Ford sent these gems from *Prayers and Graces*, a little book of extraordinary piety collected by Allan Laing with illustrations by Mervyn Peake:

"A curate, having taken considerable trouble to prepare a speech for a public meeting, found himself, to his disgust, called upon only to lead the audience in prayer. Determined not to waste his material, he embodied most of his speech in his prayer, one passage of which ran: 'Lest this point be too obscure, O Lord, permit Thy servant to illustrate it with an anecdote . . .'"

"Bishop Wilberforce used to tell the story of a greedy clergyman who, when asked to say grace, would look anxiously to see if there were champagne glasses on the table. If there were, he would begin: 'O most bountiful Jehovah! . . .'; but if he saw only claret glasses, he would pray: 'We are not worthy, O Lord, of these, the least of Thy mercies . . .'"

"Dean Inge once received a partly anonymous letter from a lady, who wrote: 'I am praying for your death. I have been successful in two other instances.'"

"I'm giving my mother John Osborne's book for Christmas"

Marc

Hard lines

Forget all the other "Christmas-presents-for-the-person-who-has-everything". This is *it*. Tony Benn's book, *Arguments for Democracy* is available through *Tribune* signed by the man himself. What's more, you can supply your own dedication, and Benn will sign underneath. I have already sent for a copy, with the dedication, "Democracy is the theory that the common people know what they want, and deserve to get it good and hard."

Moving scenes

It was so crowded at the Granada Television party yesterday when the last episodes of *Brideshead Revisited* were unveiled to the press that I barely had room to raise a glass to my lips. Jeremy Irons was just as hemmed in but I think I embarrassed him a little when he was explaining what he had been doing since finishing *Brideshead* and *The French Lieutenant's Woman*. He was describing how he had been playing Hamlet in the middle of the Utah desert for the BBC's *History of the Theatre*, due in 1984, but I was ill-mannered enough to press him on why it was necessary to go to Utah for that. It turned out to be because they have a perfect reproduction of the Southwark Globe Theatre in Cedar City but when I remarked that it was good to see the BBC uninhibited by the cash crisis they so often complain about, Irons — thinner than I had imagined — gulped a little and pleaded: "Please don't get me on that one, but I agree it was a strange choice for a few minutes of screen time. I suspect there's another Globe set at Elstree, if they had looked."

Now the excitement is almost over here, a covey of stars and backroom persons are off to Los Angeles next month for the launch of the serial on the Public Broadcasting System on January 18. Director Charles Sturridge said that despite the critics here, he did not think *Brideshead* would be too slow for the Americans. I had not the heart to tell him of one complaint at last year's launch for British products bought by PBS in Hollywood: "Your drama is so slow that the most movement comes from the scenery."

Evolutionary?

Claude Lévi-Strauss, the French anthropologist, is now in his last year at the Collège de France (he was allowed two extra years because he was dismissed by the Vichy Government during the war). My spies in Paris tell me that Françoise Héritier, an expert on African kinship patterns, is tipped to take over. I hope it wont be thought unduly chauvinist of me if I say that it is the end of an era.

Peter Watson



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HOW TO COPE WITH GADDAFI

What should one do about Colonel Gaddafi? That question has been nagging the governments of quite a few countries for some years, and has now engaged the attention of the National Security Council of the United States, with President Reagan personally presiding, for two consecutive days.

Normally speaking it would be considered highly offensive for the government of one country to consider "doing" anything about the leader of another country. But Colonel Gaddafi's case is decidedly abnormal. He is a *self-styled revolutionary leader* who really does not hold with the normal paraphernalia of international relations at all. He refuses to call himself either head of state or head of government, preferring the title "Leader of the Revolution". His country is no mere republic (*jumhuriya*); it has to be a *jamahiriya* ("state of the masses"). Instead of embassies, it has "people's bureaux". And so on.

Such eccentricities would not matter if they were purely verbal. But they are not. The "Brother Colonel", as he also likes to be called, does not consider himself bound even by the international law that forbids one to commit acts of mayhem in states with which one maintains ostensibly friendly relations. Actually he is not, unfortunately, unique in that respect, but he is uniquely open in what he does. From time to time he openly threatens his exiled countrymen with "popular justice" if they refuse to return home; and there is not much secrecy about the training camps he maintains for "liberation movements" of such ideological diversity that a predilection for violence and terror is almost their only common denominator. In addition to that, he maintains an awesome arsenal of Soviet-made weapons, and is given to musing aloud about re-drawing the map of northern and equatorial Africa.

As if all that were not alarming enough, he evinces a strong desire to possess nuclear weapons, and is apparently willing to finance their production by any developing country that will promise him a share of the results. Has he now also promised himself the scalp of the President of the United States (whose attention he was drawing, not so long ago, to the plight of American Indians)? President Reagan himself seems to believe so, and it must be admitted that such a scheme would not be completely out of character.

That character has also its Dr Jekyll aspect. The same man who fulminates, day in, day out, against American imperialism, is quite happy to *supply oil to the United States* in order to earn the dollars with which he buys his Soviet arms and other imports. He offers large salaries to Western technicians to run his oil industry for him. He is capable of staging a reconciliation with King Hassan of Morocco in order to make Tripoli an acceptable venue for next year's OAU summit; and of withdrawing his troops meekly from Chad once requested to do so by President Goukouni Oueddei.

No doubt, for all his own breathing of fire and brimstone, he is sensitive to threats of retribution. He may fear an assassination attempt against himself — though his East German security advisers are generally thought to have made that extremely difficult. He does almost certainly fear an invasion of his country from Egypt, with American encouragement. He has undoubtedly been put out by Exxon's withdrawal from his country under United States government pressure, and by the fall in his oil revenues resulting from the present world glut, with the consequent slowdown of the Libyan economy.

That does not mean that it would be wise for the West to try to organize his overthrow, whether by covert action or by encouraging an Egyptian attack (which President Mubarak is in any case probably unwilling to undertake). The objection to such a course (even if one discounts purely ethical considerations) is that the consequences of success are as difficult to foresee, and almost as likely to be adverse for the West, as the consequences of failure.

"Economic sanctions do not have a very good track record, either. The threat of them is generally more potent than their actual application, the most probable effect of which, in this case, would be to render Libya much more closely dependent on the Soviet block than it is at *present*. It is right, however, for America to take advantage of the present oil glut to reduce its dependence on such an awkward supplier, and to extricate itself from the responsibility of being the main financier of the Colonel's escapades.

Sanctions might have made sense as a lever to get Libyan troops out of Chad, had the Colonel refused to remove them. It is more difficult to envisage them as a way of ending terrorism and assassination. Until when would they be applied? Until Colonel Gaddafi was overthrown? Until he promised to behave better? Until a consortium of Western intelligence services was satisfied that he had not ordered anyone's assassination in the last six months? The objections to any of these deadlines are not hard to think of.

It has to be admitted that there is no easy solution. The most important thing is that each state should effectively enforce its laws on its own territories. If hit squads are at large, they should be apprehended, tried and sentenced. If people with diplomatic status are abusing it to aid and abet crime, they should be promptly expelled (as several were from this country last year). If "people's bureaux" are collectively and systematically involved in such activities they should be closed down (as the one in Washington has been). Citizens of Western countries should not be forbidden to go to Libya (a procedure which generally raises difficult constitutional issues) but should be warned that relations between that country and their own are not normal and that they take a risk of being the victims of Libyan reprisals in a crisis. Bona fide Libyan opponents of the regime should be given protection and a degree of moral support.

Of course, if Libyan forces attack any country it is entitled to shoot back, as the United States did in the Gulf of Sirte last August. Short of that, all one can do is keep the Colonel at arm's length and discourage other countries from helping him with his harebrained schemes. Luckily he is no longer the charismatic and influential figure in the Middle East that he once was. He really is not a worthy opponent for the President of the United States to engage in a televised exchange of insults.

THE CAPTIVE PRINCESS

There will be wide public sympathy for the appeal made yesterday by the Press Secretary to the Queen, on behalf of the Royal Family, for respect for the privacy of the Princess of Wales. The immediate occasion of the request is the surveillance of the Princess by photographers who have been bivouacked near her home in *Highgrove, Gloucestershire*. It is graciously suggested that these are mainly foreign intruders, but some of the prying photographers have been British and certainly at least three national dailies have encouraged them by publishing their work. The most recent, on Monday, was a photograph purporting to show Prince Charles kissing the Princess on a balcony. It *might* have been Romeo and Juliet for all that could be discerned; it was a photograph whose out-of-focus muzziness would normally have led to derisive rejection but in this instance was presumably regarded as enhancing prurience. It should not have been taken and it should not have been published.

Everyone, Prince or pauper or Prime Minister, is entitled to protection from peeping Toms. The nearest precedent concerns the Queen and Princess Margaret who were photographed at picnics and water skiing in 1964 in the grounds of Sunninghill Park by photographers who were clearly trespassers; a forester came across two of the offenders hidden in the undergrowth with their cameras trained on *the hut where* Princess Margaret was changing her clothes.

The Press Council condemned the publication of pictures obtained by trespass and the incidental deceit of two newspaper editors by a freelance. There may be no question of trespass at Highgrove but it matters very little whether the photographer was legally engaged on his work from the public highway using a long lens or whether *there was illegal trespass*. It was an immoral intrusion.

The other incident is more difficult. One weekend, when she had no public duties, the Princess popped out in casual clothes, as any ordinary citizen might do, to buy some papers and sweets. She was snapped and pinned like an errant butterfly to the front pages of various public prints the next day. Does a public figure have *any right* to privacy in a public place? No ordinary citizen expects such a right. There are laws in several countries which protect the citizen who is photographed in public in a way which is embarrassing or objectionable, but being seen shopping in Tetbury High Street in jeans and quilted "warmer" might be thought endearing rather than humiliating. *It is the sense of* harassment and the lack of ordinary consideration which offends. The newspapers which published the photograph no doubt thought it innocuous enough at the time; some years ago Mr Harold Macmillan, years after he had left office, was harmlessly photographed in a bus queue in Trafalgar Square.

Yet a *different view* must surely be taken in the light of the certain knowledge that photography distresses. It is then much more similar to the pestering endured by Mrs Jacqueline Kennedy which the American courts have chosen to restrain. The idea *that the Princess might send* a servant for the wine gums is pompous if not preposterous. It would be *nice to think* we are grown up enough not to imprison a princess in a palace. The Princess of Wales has risen to her duties with grace and beauty and dedication; the public photography of these is a joy. It should not be contaminated, as it is, by the knowledge that she *is* hurt and *anxious* at a particularly difficult time in a young marriage, and when she is expecting a child. She has built up a publicity credit of considerable magnitude and is entitled to draw on it for respect of her privacy.

Some people will no doubt see this affair as grist for the cyclical campaign for a law of privacy. The social evil of intrusion is real enough but, as *the Younger Committee* concluded in 1972, it is better dealt with by specific measures than by a general law which is difficult to frame without consequences clearly against the public interest. In the past the press has responded well to appeals such as that made yesterday. The ambushing of Prince Charles at Cheam Preparatory School ceased after a similar conference and appeal from Buckingham Palace twenty five years ago, and later when he was at Cambridge. It would be be very surprising if there is not a similar response at the sad sense of beleaguerment of the Princess of Wales.

Overcrowded prisons

From Sir Edmund Stockdale

Sir, Your leading article, "Crisis in the Prisons," published on the same day (December 1) as Lord Hunt's letter, is my excuse for making a suggestion that would reduce the population in one prison at least, namely Holloway Prison.

I recommend that an immediate decision be taken to abolish prison sentences for prostitutes. During the years 1949-53, when Chairman of the Advisory Board, etc, of Holloway prison, and of the weekly "case committee" which dealt with the after-care of prisoners leaving in the following week, I learnt that a prison sentence is both out of date, inappropriate and, indeed, useless in the case of a prostitute.

At the meetings of the case committee, the chairman was assisted by representatives of the Salvation Army, the Probation Office, the Ministry of Labour and the RWVS — as well as by the chaplain, the priest, the Governor, the medical officer, and the prison visitor.

Every effort was made to help. In the cases of prostitutes the reply to our inquiries was always an assurance of "no problem." Often the prisoner would say, "Thank you very much. I've had a fine rest and feel tons better". *It may well be asked, what is the* alternative? The answer is — very much higher fines.

Yours faithfully,
EDMUND STOCKDALE,
Hoddington House,
Upton Grey,
Basingstoke,
Hampshire

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Concern at burden of heavy lorries

From the President of the Civic Trust

Sir, Not surprisingly, the plan to increase the maximum permitted weight of lorries from 32.5 to 40 tonnes has aroused widespread alarm. In fact the Government's White Paper on this subject itself acknowledges that this is a "matter of grave public concern".

This important decision is being taken on the basis of quite inadequate information about the consequences.

The White Paper claims that more than half the historic towns in England which lie on trunk roads have by-passes. But lorries are by no means confined to trunk roads. The Historic Buildings Council, in 1978, advised that, out of 410 historic towns which were threatened by excessive traffic, only 158 had been wholly or partly by-passed.

In the absence of official action the Civic Trust has carried out a sample survey of the roads forming the Advisory Lorry Route Network, proposed by the Government in 1976. This survey, which covers all towns and villages with populations between 500 and 150,000, shows that only about 25 per cent of these now have by-passes.

The White Paper, while acknowledging that noise from lorries is a serious problem, seeks to reassure us with the promise of a "quiet" heavy lorry for the 1990s. But this was promised in the 1970s for the 1980s and no such lorry is as yet *in production*.

The White Paper claims that heavier lorries will mean fewer lorries; yet, in the past, each time increases in lorry weights have been permitted the number of heavier lorries has risen.

The question, therefore, is whether in these circumstances the limited commercial advantages of the proposed change justifies inflicting the grave and irretrievable damage which this would involve. I have no doubt that the answer is "No".

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN-SANDYS
Civic Trust,
17 Carlton House Terrace, SW1.
December 5.

Calculating swings

From Dr D. Firth

Sir, The article by Mr Ivor Crewe in your issue of November 28 was accompanied by a table including percentage *swings from* Conservative and Labour to the SDP-Liberal Alliance in four recent elections. These swings appear to have been calculated using the rule: swing from A to B is half the sum of the decrease in A and the increase *in B. Although this* rule is adequate for elections involving only two main parties, it is inappropriate when more parties are involved.

It is timely to consider how to extend the useful concept of "*swing*" in a *meaningful* and accurate way to elections involving three or more parties. Considering the same four elections as Mr Crewe, the percentage changes are:

	C	Lab	SDP-L	Others
Warrington	-21.7	-13.2	+33.3	+1.6
Croydon	-18.9	-14.1	+29.5	+3.5
St Pancras	-17.1	-15.3	+33.7	-1.3
Crosby	-17.1	-15.9	+33.9	-0.9

In cases where three changes are negative and one positive (St Pancras, Crosby), the extension is straightforward: the swing from *each party to the SDP*-Liberal Alliance is equal to the percentage of votes lost. A more complex situation is where two changes are positive and two are negative.

The problem lies in determining *what proportion* of the percentage lost by Conservative or Labour has gone to the Alliance and to other parties respectively. The simplest solution is to divide the percentage of votes lost in the same porportions as the overall percentage gains. Applying these rules leads to the following percentage swing table:

	C to SDP–L	C to Others	Lab to SDP–L	L to Others	Others to SDP–L
Warrington	20.7	1.0	12.6	0.6	—
Croydon	16.7	2.0	12.6	1.5	—
St Pancras	17.1	—	15.3	—	1.3
Crosby	17.1	—	16.8	—	0.9

Thus it can be seen, for example, that the SDP–Liberal Alliance is gaining consistently more previous Conservative voters than previous Labour voters.

Yours faithfully,
DON FIRTH,
160 Fog Lane,
Didsbury,
Manchester.

Romney Marsh

From the Bishop Suffragan of Maidstone

Sir, Michael Nightingale (letter, November 28) unfortunately tells only part of the story. It is not true that "the last resident clergyman amongst the rural parishes of Romney Marsh ... is not to be replaced". The parishes of the Marsh have courageously reorganised themselves and the Diocese of Canterbury is planning not only to replace the retired man *but also to give the* Marsh additional pastoral help.

There is no simple answer to the maintenance of these lovely churches, and many of us in the Canterbury diocese hope that the wider community can come to their assistance. But if those churches are "to stand as a thank-offering" then pastoral care must be put squarely alongside the considerations of architecture and the environment. After all, the Church is in the business of caring for living communities and not just preserving ancient buildings, however beautiful.

Yours faithfully,
†ROBERT MAIDSTONE,
Bishop's House,
Egerton,
Ashford,
Kent.

Mr Bukovsky and peace in Europe

From Canon Paul Oestreicher

Sir, When Vladimir Bukovsky was a political prisoner in the Soviet Union I was, as chairman of the British Section of Amnesty International, actively involved in the campaign for his release. Happily it succeeded. Happily in his exile he is free to publish what he likes.

May I now, as an activist in the peace movement since the fifties and as a member of the National Council of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, invite him to take the trouble to get to know the movement he attacks so passionately and misrepresents so completely in your columns?

A movement that seriously intends to contribute to peace needs to be subjected to a constant rigorous critique. Public debate, from which all can learn, is essential. Sadly, Bukovsky's passionate attack makes little contribution to the moral and political debate. He believes that the peace movement is based on false emotion. The one virtue of his long article is that it lays bare his own strong emotions, which *reflect those of many others*. And emotions are an important element in any political situation.

I can appreciate Bukovsky's feelings. What I regret is that these feelings are based on "facts" about the peace movement which are largely in the realms of fantasy. He may well know a few people with the attitudes he describes. They may wear CND badges, but their views do not even approximate to the opinions and policies of the leaders of the peace movement in Britain, Holland and West Germany — those I know at first hand.

Others will no doubt point out some of Bukovsky's factual mistakes. That is not my purpose here. I know him to be sincere and invite him to join the real debate. When he does know the facts, I suspect he will still disagree with CND, but for him to deride positions the peace movement does not hold is to indulge in propaganda, not debate. *The latter is essential*, while the former needs to be as firmly rejected as CND would have rejected "Moscow gold", had it ever been on offer.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL OESTREICHER,
40 Dartmouth Row, SE10.
December 7.

From Monsignor Bruce Kent

Sir, The extreme language of those who have suffered greatly is its own justification and I have no comment to make about that aspect of Mr Bukovsky's article (December 4) on the European peace movements.

However, since CND was named in the subtitle and its logo shown in the photograph, it must be said that on a number of important points Mr Bukovsky is simply in error.

SS20s do not get from the peace movement "a brief mention". They were well mentioned on the thousands of leaflets and posters which left this office before the rally on October 24. "No cruise, no Pershing, no SS20s" read the official CND publicity".

I know nothing of subsidized trips to Soviet resorts and whatever the allegations against an individual Danish journalist there is not the slightest evidence that the peace *movements are in* receipt of Soviet money. Those who know our working conditions could not possibly believe anything else.

The peace movements do not encourage the throwing of stones at General Haig or anyone else. Indeed non-violence was the outstanding characteristic of the recent European demonstration. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, not the KGB (or the Pentagon), is our basic source of information about the arms race.

We do not call for the unilateral disarmament of the West but, given the present irrational overkill capacity, we say that both sides could make deep cuts in their nuclear arsenals without any loss to what they choose to call security. We do not ask for the unilateral abandonment of an "independent" British nuclear role, which is both expensive and purposeless.

We did condemn the invasion of Afghanistan, but we have not spoken about Sakharov, Mandela, Romero or Berrigan. If we have not mentioned Poland neither have we spoken about Salvador, the Middle East or East Timor. Ours is not a movement for the *general denunciation of all violations* of human rights and we do not pretend to have the competence to issue useful statements about every international flashpoint.

Finally, it need not be any *surprise that the World Peace* Council knew in 1980 about a disarmament week in 1981. After all the dates were agreed at the United Nations special session in 1978 and governments and non-governmental organisations pledged themselves to support this annual event.

I hope that Mr Bukovsky will be able one day to accept that it is not possible to divide the world as he divides it and that it is the technology of the arms race as much as the malice of individuals or groups which leads us like lemmings to the war that no one can win. It is just that future that the peace movements refuse to accept. Europe, East and West, is not for the super Powers to use as their front line.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE KENT,
General Secretary,
Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament,
11 Goodwin Street, N4.
December 6.

From Air Chief Marshal Sir Theodore McEvoy,

Sir, Vladimir Bukovsky is right when he says that intelligent discussion with unilateral disarmers is impossible, but may I suggest that you reprint his article (December 4) as a pamphlet which we can buy and send to our misguided friends? After all, he knows more about the Soviet Union than they or we do.

Yours faithfully,
THEO McEVOY,
75A Boundstone Road,
Rowledge,
Farnham,
Surrey.
December 4.

Savoy management

From the Vice Chairman and Chief Executive of Trusthouse Forte

Sir, We do not know who invented the story that THF has planted a spy or "mole" at the Savoy Hotel in the person of Mr Willy Bauer as its new general manager. We do know that it is a highly insulting suggestion that Sir Charles Forte or THF would act in such a manner. It is also offensive to the integrity of Mr Bauer.

In Business News (December 7) you report that Sir Hugh Wontner was quick to dismiss such *claims as being completely without foundation*. It is interesting that he should be so sure, and we can only conclude that he read our letter of rebuttal to the trade journal that published the original suggestion a week earlier.

As to Mr Bauer's training, after 16 years with THF we feel that we can justly claim a major share of the credit for that.

Sir Hugh is quoted as saying that the appointment should give THF "confidence that their main asset in London will be in very capable hands". Our investment in the Savoy Group is slightly more than 66 per cent of the A shares and 65 per cent A and B shares combined, not the 62 per cent which Sir *Hugh* appears to think we hold. This holding gives us 40.2 per cent of the votes, as Sir Hugh should well know as chairman of the group.

According to Mr Bauer, he was enticed to the Savoy by "a little whisper" *in his ear. We do not* believe that enough can be accomplished simply by the enticement of one new manager. Rather we firmly believe that the Savoy Group needs the backing of THF direction, expertise and capital if it is to realize its long dormant potential. The time for rejoicing will be when we can assist the Savoy in such a comprehensive way.

Until then we are delighted that Mr Bauer intends to adopt our philosophy that "maintenance of standards at the Savoy must go hand in hand with profit-making".

Yours faithfully,
ERIC HARTWELL,
Trusthouse Forte,
86 Park Lane, W1.

Business reality

From the P. M. de Semlyen

Sir, The letter from Lord Kaldor (December 3) in reply to that of the 17 business leaders, helps to remind us of the damage done to the infrastructure of our economy by the administration that he advised.

The picture he paints of top industrialists, cheerful at the prospect of "treating workmen like dirt" happily belongs to an industrial era nearly past. Less happily, it appears to be still apparently lived out and taught to economists at Cambridge. Was it not his circle who dreamt up Selective Employment Tax, inflicting overmanning on all of us and undermining the will to work? "Fear of the sack" is often acceptance of reality. Knowledge that whatever you do or do not do, the state or the union will protect your job is the alternative. Did not Lord Kaldor follow this road directly to *In Place of Strife?*

My company, once overmanned, welfare orientated, lacking cohesion, discipline and professional working attitudes has faced reality. Unit cost has been substantially reduced. Redundancies have been accepted by everyone as necessary and inevitable.

Communications in companies are rapidly *improving. Lord* Kaldor, who relies on foreign businessmen to support his views, would do well to look more closely at the management of the organizations he criticizes. His letter illustrates his need to do so.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL de SEMLYEN,
Chief Executive
Tudor Photographic Group Limited,
30-32 Oxgate Lane Industrial Estate, NW2.
December 3.

Round trip

From Professor Richard Schlegel

Sir, Within the past year both my son, in San Francisco, and I, on Gower Street in London, have had similar accidents. Unwittingly we have put one foot on a hoop-like ribbon of plastic (quite probably discarded as a binding for a bundle of newspapers), thereby raising the hoop enough for the other foot to enter it. With the second foot caught in the ribbon, held firmly to the ground by the other foot, a nasty fall has resulted.

This new pedestrian hazard is apparently made possible by the strong plastics now being produced. Will those who utilize closed ribbons of the material please have a care not to strew them in the paths of moving feet?

Sincerely yours,
RICHARD SCHLEGEL,
Wolfson College, Cambridge.

Scientific tests for Darwinism

From Professor D. S. Falconer, FRS, and Professor A. Robertson, FRS

Sir, It is not true that evolution cannot be falsified, as Mr Leslie Cunliffe says (December 7). Evolution, as a scientific theory, predicts that if organisms are classified according to their resemblances and differences, the groups so found will be related to each other in a hierarchical manner, which can be depicted as a branching tree. If this were found not to be true evolution would be disproved.

Evolutionary theory interprets the tree so constructed as reflecting the lines of ancestral descent. A more powerful test comes from considering the many different characteristics by which organisms can be classified. *If different characteristics* demanded different trees, this would disprove evolution. In other words, the same line of descent must be deduced from all organs and structures of a particular species.

Recent developments of molecular genetics have made it possible to quantify the differences between organisms in respect of many enzymes and other proteins. This provides a very powerful test of whether different characteristics require the same or different trees.

Mr Cunliffe also says that no one, as yet, has produced a new species. He overlooks the dogs. If the present breeds of dogs were found as fossils, the palaeontologists would without doubt *classify them as different species* or even different genera. Furthermore, their evolution has taken place so quickly that it would appear from the fossil record to be instanteneous, without intermediate stages.

Yours etc,
D. S. FALCONER,
ALAN ROBERTSON,
Department of Genetics,
University of Edinburgh.
December 7.

From Dr Malcolm Jack

Sir, Surely some metaphysical pundit can now produce a formula gradual enough to appease the evolutionists, creative enough for the creationists, falsifiable enough for Sir Karl Popper and *not* big bang enough to frighten everyone else away?

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM JACK,
The Garden Flat,
56 Coolhurst Road, N8.
December 7.

Talking to the PLO

From the Reverend Saul Amias

Sir, Your leader, "The Arab summit debacle" (November 27) pointed out in clear terms what the PLO really is. If Arafat has no control over the PLO, if the PLO is "a thoroughly faction-ridden organisation", in which various Arab countries pull the strings, how can the EEC say that the PLO should be brought into the negotiations? How can it be said that they represent the Palestinians when they are, in fact, controlled by Arab countries like Iraq, Syria and Libya?

When the Fahd plan was first announced it was reported that Arafat supported it, but subsequently Arafat let down even his paymaster. You yourself, Sir, suggest that Arafat is not in control of the PLO, and if so, what is the point of taking him into account in any *Middle East* arrangement?

Yours truly,
SAUL AMIAS,
34 Mowbray Road,
Edgware, Middlesex.

Tender stage

From Mr Anthony H. Chapman

Sir, Susan Beattie is right when she says (feature, December 1) that disabled people should not be banded together simply because of their handicaps. They all have individuality and quite disparate interests in life.

But at this tender stage of public awareness which the International Year has promoted *we who are disabled must strive* for the common ideal: that the everyday environment is so practicable that wheelchair-users like myself, or spastics, or those exhibiting a mental handicap are encountered in town or countryside so frequently that we do not command a second glance.

Yours faithfully.
ANTHONY CHAPMAN,
30 Church End,
Everton,
Bedfordshire.

More or less?

From Mrs R. G. M. Williams

Sir, I wonder if Mr Peter Tatchell can explain his way out of yet another infelicitous statement? You report (December 5) that "Mr Tatchell supported equal rights and civil liberties for all minority groups, including women, gay people and ethnic minorities."

Have women ever been a minority group?

Yours faithfully,
PATRICIA A. WILLIAMS,
30 Swan Street,
Boxford,
Colchester, Essex.
December 5.

Silent nights

From Miss Mary H. Thompson

Sir, How apt that you should inform us (Preview, December 4) of inns where there is no room for children or animals this Christmas.

Yours faithfully,
MARY H. THOMPSON,
11 Upper Gray Street,
Edinburgh.
December 4.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 8: The Queen inspected a detachment of 10th Signal Regiment, Royal Corps of Signals (Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel D. M. O. Miller) at Buckingham Palace today.

Major-General Desmond Langley (General Officer Commanding London District) and Lieutenant-Colonel C. A. Brown (Commander Royal Signals, London District) were present on duty.

The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

The Prince Andrew this afternoon attended the Hundredth Rugby Match between Oxford and Cambridge Universities at Twickenham and was present this evening at a commemorative dinner at the Hilton Hotel, London, W1.

The Right Hon Sir Philip Moore, Mr John Haslam and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance.

The Princess of Wales this morning visited St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Tetbury, Gloucestershire.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 8: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Colonel-in-Chief Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, was present this evening at a Reception given by the Corps at the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

The Lady Anne Tennant was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 8: The Duke of Gloucester on behalf of The Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation presented "Building for the Disabled" Awards at The Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, London, this morning.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 8: The Duke of Kent, as Patron, this evening attended a Gala Concert of "Queen" Music given by The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and the Royal Choral Society in aid of the Leukaemia Research Fund at The Royal Albert Hall.

Lieutenant-Commander Richard Buckley, RN, was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
December 8: Princess Alexandra, Chancellor, this afternoon presided at a congregation for the conferment of higher degrees at the University of Lancaster.

Afterwards, Her Royal Highness presented the 1981 Citizen of the Year Award of the Lancaster Guardian Series.

Princess Alexandra, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard.

Princess Margaret, as Grand President of the St John Ambulance Association and Brigade, will attend the gala ball to be held at the Hotel Inter-Continental today.

Princess Alexandra, as patron, will visit the headquarters of the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust at 5 Blyth Road, Bromley, London, on January 19.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Marquess of Exeter will take place in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, London, at noon today.

The governors of Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for the Disabled announce that Mr P. H. D. Crichton has been elected chairman of the foundation, in succession to Mr E. Stanley Evans, who has retired.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. C. Begg and Miss P. B. Wigham Richardson
The engagement is announced between Alastair, only son of Mr and Mrs Henry Begg, of Cammo Road, Edinburgh, and Patricia, youngest daughter of the late Sir George Wigham Richardson, Bt, and of Lady Richardson, of The Old Manor House, Benenden, Kent.

Lieutenant-Commander J. P. A. Blake, RN (ret.) and Miss A. G. Clapperton
The engagement is announced between Jon Patrick Allen, younger son of Colonel and Mrs E. P. Blake, of Tenby, Pembrokeshire, and Amanda Gabrielle, younger daughter of the late Mr Douglas (Jock) Clapperton and Mrs Margery Clapperton, of Boars Hill, Oxford.

Mr A. R. P. Courtney and Miss D. M. Bartonova
The engagement is announced between Anthony Raymond Courtney, LlB, son of Major and Mrs R. B. Courtney, of Dartmouth, Devon, and Daniela Bartonova, daughter of Dr Melina Jelinek, of London, W9.

Mr C. A. Crabbe and Miss Stewart of Coll
The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place in Edinburgh in January between Colin, elder son of Mr And Mrs J. G. Crabbe, of Braeriach, Braid Hills Road, Edinburgh, and Fiona Katharine Moncreiff, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Stewart of Coll, Argyll.

Captain S. J. Parker and Miss L. R. Bett
The engagement is announced between Stephen James, The Queen's Regiment, elder son of Mr and Mrs Lawrence Parker, of 18 Ash Hill Road, Ash, Aldershot, and Lucy Roselleen, twin daughter of Mr and Mrs Henry Bett, of 40A Bryanston Court, George Street, London, W1.

Mr A. L. Hodgkins and Miss C. M. L. Mates
The engagement is announced between Adam, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. D. Hodgkins, of Oxford, and Caroline, elder daughter of Mr Michael Mates, MP, and of Mrs Mary Mates, of Farnham, Surrey.

Mr S. Ilett and Miss B. Peart
The engagement is announced between Stephen, only son of the late Mr S. A. H. Ilett and of Mrs B. Ilett, of Long Ditton, Surrey, and Barbara, only daughter of Mr and Mrs B. Peart, of Claygate, Surrey.

Mr C. V. Jackson and Miss F. Schwartzstein
The engagement is announced beteen Charles, elder son of Mr and Mrs L. C. Jackson, of Cults, Aberdeenshire, and Frances, daughter of Mr and Mrs F. Schwartzstein, of Trenton, New Jersey, United States.

Dr P. J. Luthert and Miss J. M. Lansdown
The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mr and Mrs M. R. Luthert, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire, and Joanna, daughter of Dr P. F. P. Lansdown, of Purley, Surrey, and Mrs M. E. Lansdown, of Earls Barton, Northamptonshire.

Major A. G. Morrison and Miss E. J. Marston
The engagement is announced between Alistair Graeme, only son of Mrs G. R. Morrison, of Kingsmuir Hall, Peebles, and the late Mr T. Morrison, and Elizabeth Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs G. H. Marston, of Rose Garth, Marple, Cheshire.

Mr S. E. Philip and Miss C. E. Julyan
The engagement is announced between Stewart Eric, elder son of Mr and Mrs R. Philip, of Newlands, Hull, North Humberside, and Caroline Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs R. J. Julyan, of Veryan, Truro, Cornwall.

Mr F. H. Seebohm and Miss L. Bicomong
The engagement is announced between Frederic Hugh, elder son of Mr George Seebohm, Graveley, Hertfordshire, and Mrs Jane Broadribb, Sandon, Hertfordshire, and Lualhati, daughter of Mr and Mrs E. G. Bicomong, of the Philippines.

Mr M. J. Walker and Miss C. A. Bass
The engagement is announced between Malcolm, only son of Mr and Mrs D. A. Walker, of Whitton, Middlesex, and Christine, only daughter of the late Mr and Mrs J. H. Bass, of Whitton, Middlesex.

Mr R. W. Wright and Miss R. P. Potter
The engagement is announced between Roger William, younger son of Canon and Mrs F. S. Wright, of Manchester, and Rosemary Platts, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs D. P. Potter, of Duffield, Derbyshire.

Marriages

Mr G. P. Baker and Miss A. J. Cameron
The marriage took place in Chelsea on Monday, December 7, between Mr Graham Baker and Miss Annabel Cameron.

Mr P. Cywan and Miss A. G. Maufe
The marriage took place in London yesterday, between Mr Philippe Cywan, of 114 Avenue des Champs Elysees, Paris 8, and Miss Amanda Maufe, of 11 Westbourne Terrace, London, W2. The honeymoon is being spent in the United States and in Polynesia.

A reception will take place in the spring of 1982.

Mr C. P. C. Kirby-Turner and Miss C. E. Reeve
The marriage of Mr Carl Kirby-Turner and Miss Caroline Reeve took place in Sussex in November.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Lieutenant-General Sir Paul Travers to be Quarter Master General, Ministry of Defence.

Major-General R. B. Trant to be General Officer Commanding South east District, in the rank of lieutenant-general.

Major-General G. H. W. Howlett to be Commandant, Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

Brigadier G. H. Watkins to be General Officer Commanding The Artillery Division, in the rank of major-general.

All appointments take effect in March.

Service dinners

The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry
The officers of the 6th Battalion, The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, held their annual reunion dinner at the Army and Navy Club last night. Major G. N. Astley-Cooper presided.

Highland TA & VRA Major-General A.C.S. Boswell, Director of Territorial Army and Cadets and Mrs Boswell were guests at a dinner given by the Highland TA & VRA at the Cavalry and Guards Club last night. The hosts were Colonel J. G. Mathieson (chairman) and Mrs Mathieson, Air Vice-Marshal G. Young, Colonel I. McAdam, Lieutenant Colonel J. Stirling and Major M. Wedgwood, (vice-chairmen) and Colonel L. Hudson (Secretary) and Mrs. Hudson.

Award for Jon Snow

The 1981 Valiant for Truth Media Award, to be presented by the Duchess of Kent at the Press Club next Wednesday, has been won by Mr Jon Snow, the ITN reporter. The citation reads: "For front-line journalism disregarding danger".

Darwin stamps

The Post Office's first special stamps of 1982 will commemorate the centenary of the death of Charles Darwin. The four stamps, to be issued on February 10, have been designed by David Gentleman.

Inner Temple

Mr N. J. Inglis-Jones and Mr R. R. F. Scott, QC, have been elected Masters of the Bench of the Inner Temple.

Birthdays today



Lord Butler of Saffron Walden, CH, who is 79.

Mr J. C. Burgh, 56; Miss Judi Dench, 47; Mr Kirk Douglas, 65; Mr Douglas Fairbanks, 72; Miss Hermione Gingold, 84; Mr Benny Green, 54; Mr George Helsby, 40; Mr I J McIntyre, 50; Sir Stewart MacTier, 76; Lord Morris, 44; Sir Godfrey Nicholson, 80; Miss Isobel Poole, 40; Mme Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, 66; Sir Peter Smithers, 68; Sir Maurice Yonge, 82.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid)
Cooper, Mr Cyril, of Braithwell, South Yorkshire £432,609
O'Connor, General Sir Richard Nugent, of Westminster, commander of the Western Desert Corps in the Libyan campaign of 1940-41 .... £85,649
Langdon, Miss Hilda Gore, of Bristol £417,312

De Berry MS sold for £220,000

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Sotheby's yesterday auctioned a manuscript of *Les Grandes Chroniques de France* written and illuminated for Jean Duc de Berry, the great medieval art collector and bibliophile. Th price was £220,000, (estimate £150,000 to £250,000) and the purchaser was the société des Manuscripts et Autographes Francais.

Expensive manuscripts are generally bought by H. P. Kraus the American dealer, but he was conspicuous by his absence; yesterday's price is the highest ever paid at auction by any purchaser other than Kraus.

The manuscript, although fragmentary, (several of the missing pages are in the British Library), is thought to be the last of the Duc de Berry's manuscripts left in private hands. The illuminations are by the best French court painters of the 1370s and depict characteristic romps of the age of chivalry, knights in armour, castles, princesses, battles et al. The text (part mythical) celebrates the achievements of the French royal line from the fall of Troy to the thirteenth century.

The recent history of the manuscript is shrouded in confidentiality. For a century or so it appears to have belonged to the family of the Marquess of Bute, who sold it privately in the 1970's. The manuscript was held up in the customs on its way to Sotheby's and is believed to have been sent for sale by a Parisian collector. The purchaser is a recently established private foundation based in Paris.

Sotheby's sale of Western manuscripts and miniatures attracted strong bidding, with only 3 per cent unsold. The "Bible of Aulne Abbey", a vellum manuscript written and illuminated in Paris or north-east France about 1215-25, was sold for £143,000 (estimated £100,000 to 150,000) to a Swiss private collector. An *Hours of the Virgin*, of about 1485, from the northern Netherlands, sold for £37,400 (estimated £20,000 to £25,000) to N. Israel, a Dutch dealer.

Other auction fields were having a harder time. Sotheby's art deco sale in Monaco on Monday was 24 per cent unsold, with a top price of 244,200 francs, or £21,668, for a geometric pendant in gold, crystal and onyx made in 1928 by Gérard Sandoz. Christie's sale of Renaissance bronzes and works of art was 41 per cent unsold although a fifteenth-century bronze of a prancing stallion exceeded its estimate to fetch £18,700.

Christie's Old Master drawings were 26 per cent unsold but £16,500 (estimate £15,000 to £20,000) was paid for a Tiepolo drawing of a winged deity.

Phillips's sale of Old Master paintings was 40 per cent unsold.

Prince Andrew at the Oxford and Cambridge rugby match at Twickenham yesterday, his first solo public engagement (Match report, page 20).

Dinners

Earl of Lauderdale
The Earl of Lauderdale, director of Elf Aquitaine UK (Holdings) Ltd, was host at a dinner held last night at the Houses of Parliament. Those present were:
Lord Briginshaw, Lord Schon, Lord Sherfield, Lord Skelmersdale, Sir John King, Sir John Russell, chairman Elf Aquitaine UK Holdings Ltd, Mr Robert Belgrave, M Jacques Hartmann, Mr T P Jones, M Yves Lesage, M Claude Meneirier, M Pierre Moussel, Mr John Osborn, MP, and Mr Trevor Skeet, MP.

Hertfordshire Lieutenancy
Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Martin Gilliat, Vice-Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, presided last night at a dinner given by the Deputy Lieutenants at County Hall, Hertford to mark the twentieth anniversary of the appointment of Major-General Sir George Burns as HM Lieutenant of Hertfordshire.

St Stephen's Constitutional Club
Members of the political committee of St Stephen's Constitutional Club entertained at dinner last night Mr William Whitelaw, Secretary of State for Home Affairs. Mr Christopher Meyer, chairman of the club, presided.

Institution of Civil Engineers
Lord Penney OM presented the James Forrest Lecture at the Institution of Civil Engineers yesterday evening Mr I. M. Campbell, president, was in the chair. Aterwards Lord Penney, Sir Andrew Huxley and Dr L. S. Blake joined members of council and their guests at dinner.

Old Abbotsholmians Club
The annual dinner of the Old Abbotsholmians Club was held at Mark Masons Hall last night. Mr P. Godfrey, chairman of the club, presided and Mr M. Robinson, Headmaster of Abbotsholme School, was present.

Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators
The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs were guests of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators at its annual dinner held yesterday at Guildhall. Mr E. S. Kirk, president, was in the chair. Baroness Young was the guest speaker, and the High Commissioners for New Zealand, Malaysia and Australia and the Ambassador of South Africa were also present. Other guests included:
Sir James Hamilton (Permanent Under-Secretary of State, Department of Education and Science); Mr G. W. Moseley (Permanent Secretary of State, Department of the Environment); Mr P. A. R. Brown (Deputy Secretary, Department of Trade); presidents and chief executives of kindred professional bodies and representatives of City institutions.

National Liberal Club
The political and economic circle of the National Liberal Club last night gave a dinner in honour of Mr J. Grimond, MP, and the Hon. Mrs Grimond. Lord Tordoff presided.

Luncheons

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
Mr P. R. V. Watkins, president, and members of the general council of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors were hosts at a luncheon held at 12 Great George Street yesterday. The guests were: Mr Michael Roberts, MP, Mr G. S. Lewis, Mr Nicholas Thornton and Mr D. H. Pryce-Thomas.

Coal Industry Society
The Coal Industry Society held a luncheon at the Hyde Park Hotel on Monday. Sir Derek Ezra, president, introduced the principle guest and speaker, Mr Joseph Gormley, retiring president of the National Union of Mineworkers. Mr J. C. Froom was in the chair.

US MASTER KEEPS CHESS LEAD

From Harry Golombek
Chess Correspondent
Ramsgate

John Fedorowicz, of the United States, continued to dominate the Regency Masters chess tournament at Ramsgate yesterday. He convincingly beat Nykopp, the Finnish master, in the fourth round.

All five competing grandmasters have now suffered defeat. Yesterday John Nunn, England's highest ranked player, went down to Paul van der Sterren, of Holland.

Results:
Round 1: Nunn 1, Taulbut 0.
Round 3: Berg ½, Conquest ½; Miss M. S. van Parreren 0, Jacobs 1; Leverett 1, Cummings 0; Nunn ½, King ½; Flear ½, Manouck ½; Povah 0, Miss Fischdick 1; Muir 1, Troger 0; Casa 1, Dunnington 0; Patrick 1, Woodcraft 0.
Round 4: Fedorowicz 1, Nykopp 0; Berg 1, Leverett 0; Jacobs 0, Law 1; Cox 0, Taulbut 1; Muir ½, Miss van Parreren ½; Miss Fishdick 0, Covacevic 1; Nunn 0, van der Sterren 1; Kosten 1, Formanzek 0; Pytel 0, Kenworth 1; Hodgeson ½, Friedgood ½; Miles 1, Schiller 0; G. Lee ½, Hanreck ½; Manouck 0, Plaskett 1; Cummings ½, Regan ½; Hebden 1, Britton 0; Westerinen 1, Patrick 0; Kuligowski 1, C. Flear 0; Noakes 0, Pliester 1; Miss Tagnon 0, de Boer 1; D. Lee ½, Rose ½; Woodcraft ½, Dunnington ½; Paolozzi ½, Iskov ½; Josephs 0, Bohm 1; Hosking 0, O'Brien 1.
Adjourned: Conquest and Harfoch, King and Casa, Tröger and Povah, Haldemann and Roll.

Leading scores: Fedorowicz 4, Law and Berg 3½, Taulbut, Covacevic, Van der Sterren, Kosten and Kenworthy 3.

University news

Cambridge

The Seatonian prize has been awarded to A. E. Aston, MA, Pembroke College, and A Pugh, MA, Fitzwilliam College — aeq.

Elections
PETERHOUSE: Into an official fellowship: Dr R A Crowther; into a Eye fellowship: Dr P Pattenden (1981-83); as a fellow commoner: Dr A R Ekirch (1981-82).
ST JOHN'S COLLEGE: To the Kenneth Craik research award for 1981-82: Dr E. Kerr Warrington, BSc, PhD, DSc (Lond), head of department of neuropsychology at National Hospital, Queen's Square, London; to McMahon law studentships for four years: A J Crawford, BA, NW West, BA; to Harper-Wood Studentships for English poetry and literature: J N Steffen, BA (1981-82), and MA Woodward, BA (1982-83); to an organ studentship: A M Lumsden, Winchester; to choral scholarships: A J Grant (tenor), Radley, F B M Hamilton (alto), Winchester, J M Knott (tenor), King's S, Worcester; to benefactors' research studentships: Miss H S Joysey, Bristol University (parasitology), A I Lamond, Glasgow University (biochemistry), B M Musgrove, University of Newcastle, NSW (English), Miss M M O'Callaghan, University College, Dublin (history), T Papanghelis, University of Thessaloniki (classics), F L Stoddard, Carleton University, Ottawa (applied biology); to an honorary fellowship: E T D Slater, MA, MD.
CHRIST'S COLLEGE: Honorary fellowships: Dr H E Huxley, ScD, FRS, and Sir John Oliver Wright.
DARWIN COLLEGE: Miss P R Robinson, of Queen's University, Belfast, into visiting fellowship during tenure as Munby Fellow, 1982-83.

Awards
Charles Oldham Shakespeare Scholarship, 1981: M G Remington, Trinity College; proxime accessit: P D J Brighton, BA, Trinity Hall.
Sandys Studentship 1981: J A Sallares, BA, King's College.
Jebb Scholarship for two years from Oct 1 1981: N M de Courcy, Emmanuel College, MA (Auckland Univ); Jebb Studentship for 1981-82: S P Lehane, MA, New Hall.
Mellon Research Fellowship, 1981-82: A R Ekirch, Peterhouse, PhD (Virginia Poly Inst and State Univ).

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

I think I detect a new fashion.

The flood of books beginning with the word "Not" may be on the ebb.

And they may just be replaced by books, programmes and films with titles like *Did Darwin Get it Wrong?*

A well known publisher said to me the other day: "For heaven's sake don't blab it to *Times* readers, but there's a fortune to be made in doubts about evolution."

One man who agrees is "Cocker" Leakey, the brilliant but blunt Cockney palaeontologist who gave up his taxi-driving job in 1967 when a passenger left a bag of bones on the back seat. Cocker sat up all night trying to piece them together, and though they were later reclaimed by the police for an important case, the bug had bitten him. He now has a successful television series, *If the Bone Fits*, and a book in the best-seller list, *Not Just a Pretty Skull*.

But he reckons his next book, *Did Darwin get it Upside Down?* will be the blockbuster to really make his name.

"Bit of a split infinitive in that last sentence, squire", twinkled Cocker as we sat together in his local, the Skull and Trowel. "Offends my rough proletarian sensibilities, if you don't mind my saying so. Now, what was it you wanted to talk about?"

"Well, a well known publisher was telling me the other day that you think you can disprove evolution."

"Blimey, well-known publishers never get it right, do they? Beats me how they ever get well known. No, evolution is all right as far as it goes. It's just that, way I see it, Darwin got things the wrong way round."

"Meaning, it's the survival of the unfittest?"

"Well, there is something in that. I mean, if butterflies flew in a straight line like it's only sensible, they'd all be extinct by now, being easier to catch. But I'm on to bigger game. Thing is, I've worked out that monkeys are descended from man."

"!?"

"Yeah, I know it sounds a bit weird. Must admit I scratched my head when I first thought of it, Cocker, I said, you're going round the bleeding twist. It's all them bright TV lights, frying your brains.

"But the more I thought of it, the more sense it made. See, we've always assumed that man represented the highest point of civilization, evolution, whatever. Guns, cars, planes, duty-free booze — man is the only animal that ever thought of those things. But in actual point of fact, what kind of a blessing are they? More like a step backward.

"Monkeys, on the other hand, have developed a perfectly balanced society with no murders or race riots or deaths on the roads. Organizationally, they are actually an advance on man. And then it came to me in a flash — evolution saw the way man was going, did'nt like it and developed a superior animal; the monkey? Man is really just a freak, a plaything of nature, like the butterfly or bat."

"Yes", I said, moved by the stupendous vision of the man, not to mention his apparent lunacy, "but surely man is also lord of creation, king of the world and all that?"

"I don't think many rats or ants or insects would agree with that", said Cocker. "What's unfortunate, from the monkey's point of view, is that man hasn't phased himself out, as nature intended him to. But it looks to me as if he might well do that in the next few years. I just hope I can get my book out before the big bang."

"And then monkeys will take over?"

"No, no, you've got it all wrong again. See, being the most evolved species doesn't involve bossing everyone around — that's a peculiarly human attitude. Always dominate, conquer, subjugate — God, humans make me sick sometimes. Monkeys are a quiet, contented version of what man should be. Therefore superior in my book."

"Hence its title, *Did Darwin get it Upside Down?*"

"Sure. Darwin had the right ideas but I've put them in the right order. It's the final vindication of Darwin. Between you and me, I'm thinking of calling the book by an even better title: *The Beagle Has Landed*."

"So, man is not the peak of evolution?" I said slowly, letting it sink in.

"No way, guv. He's the missing link."

OBITUARY

SIGNOR FERRUCCIO PARRI

Former Prime Minister of Italy

Signor Ferruccio Parri, Prime Minister of Italy from June to November, 1945, died in Rome on December 8 at the age of 91.

He came of Piedmontese stock and was born at Pinerolo on January 19, 1890. He took his degree in Letters at Turin and proceeded to teach literature at the Parini *liceo* of Milan. During the First World War he was wounded severely five times, winning three medals for bravery and leaving the army with the rank of major.

After the victory of Vittorio Veneto he was one of the first organizers of the ex-service men's body known as *l'Opera Nazionale Combattenti*. From the outset he was steadily opposed to Fascism, and when the Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera*, on the staff of which he was, passed out of the control of the Albertini family he resigned.

Parri was one of the organizers of the escape of the prominent Socialist, Filippo Turati, accompanying him with Carlo Rosselli to Corsica. For this exploit he was subsequently tried at Savona in 1926, and when the judge asked whether he had in fact promoted Turati's escape he not only acknowledged his complicity but added that he was proud of having aided so distinguished a man.

The years between 1927 and 1933 were spent by Parri partly in detention (*confino*) and partly in prison, and then early in 1933 he was invited to collaborate in the production of that monumental work in four volumes *Cinquantennario della Società Edison, 1884-1934* in which was traced in detail the evolution of electrical mechanics in Italy and the world during half a century. Parri continued to devote himself to studies and publications on this branch of science, but his notorious anti-Fascist sentiments made him a marked man, and though he escaped arrest in 1944 he was seized and imprisoned in Milan in January 1945; while northern Italy still remained under the Germans and the rump of the Fascist regime. Luckily, however, an exchange of prisoners led to his release on March 7.

In agreeing to become Prime Minister in succession to Ivanoe Bonomi Parri undertook a thankless task. Bonomi's second Cabinet formed in December 1944, had rested upon the support of four of the six principal political parties to emerge after the fall of Fascism. Two of the parties, the Socialists and the Actionists (Parri's own party), had declined further collaboration with Bonomi, whose methods and views were regarded as too conservative.

Parri had the advantage of being able to recruit his colleagues from a wider field, enlarged by the victory of the United Nations and the liberation of north Italy, but he had a restless team to drive and as had been expected, despite the high reputation he enjoyed for his qualities of intellect and character, he proved little more than a stop-gap.

In 1963 the President of Italy, Signor Segni, appointed him a life senator.

HON DAVID ROLLO

Hamish Wallace writes:

The Hon David Rollo MBE, MC, who died on November 30 at the age of 60, was born on July 29, 1921, second son of Major John Eric Henry Rollo (12th Lord Rollo 1946-47) and Helen Maud Chetwynd-Stapleton. He was educated at Eton and Sandhurst and served from 1941-46 with the Grenadier Guards retiring with the rank of captain. In 1948 he married Bridget Mary eldest daughter of Brigadier James Erskine Stirling DSO, by whom he had one son and three daughters.

There can have been few people more gravely tested by the last war than David Rollo. After two months continuous action with the 3rd Battalion of the Grenadiers in the Tunisian Campaign, he was badly wounded and taken prisoner in February, 1943. His escape, that autumn when Italy collapsed, is a classic of its kind but as soon as possible he rejoined his battalion in March 1944, in time for the final assault on Cassino.

On the pursuit to Florence commanding No. 1 Company he fought an isolated six-day action in the attack on Arezzo and the citation for his Military Cross sets out in clear terms his quality in the field. Perhaps his most heroic action was at Monte Battaglia, 2,000 feet up in the Appenines when he fought off savage counter attacks for ten days in hideous conditions. He returned to England in March 1945 after two relentless years.

There is no doubt these times left David without ambition for the struggle of life. His solace lay in a truly happy marriage and a loving family. Those who knew him in his days of glory cannot forget the standards he set, nor the way he met them.

MR BOB LORD

Mr Bob Lord, who had been chairman of Burnley Football Club for the last 26 years died yesterday at the age of 73. One of the most outspoken figures in the game, he had been ill for some months. He gave up the chairmanship earlier this season when he sold his controlling interest, but stayed on the board of which he had been a member since 1951.

Lord was the senior vice-president of the Football League and earlier this year acted as president in a temporary capacity in the inter-regnum between the resignation of Lord Westwood and the election of Mr Jack Dunnett.

For a period in the 1950s and 1960s, Burnley, now in the Third Division, were among the most powerful clubs in the land, with a widely admired style and a superb youth scheme, which produced a string of fine players.

MR LEN HILL

Mr Len Hill, owner of the well-known Birdland Sanctuary at Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire, has died two weeks short of his seventieth birthday.

He died in his sleep on board an aircraft while returning from a visit to the two South Atlantic islands he had owned for the past 12 years.

He started life as a boot boy in a large house called Chardwar at Bourton-on-the-Water, made a fortune as a builder and in 1957 bought the house where he had once worked. He converted four acres into a bird sanctuary and since then many thousands of visitors have been to see the collection of 600 exotic birds which he assembled from many different parts of the world.

He was given the nickname "Penguin Millionaire" after he had bought the two Jason Islands in the Falkland Islands group. They were the home of millions of penguins and Hill frequently visited them to collect new stocks for Birdland.

Church news



New Bishop of Blackburn

The Right Rev Stewart Cross, aged 53 (above), Bishop Suffragan of Doncaster since 1976, is to be the next Bishop of Blackburn, in succession to the Right Rev Robert Martineau.

He was educated at Lancaster Royal Grammar School, and Trinity College, Dublin, doing his theological training at Westcott House, Cambridge. The new bishop has been greatly involved in religious radio and television broadcasting.

Other appointments:
The Rev P Whitehead, Vicar of St Johns, Spittal, diocese of Newcastle, to be also priest-in-charge of Scremerston, same diocese.
The Rev R D A Wouldham, Vicar of Lowick & Kyloe, Berwick on Tweed, diocese of Newcastle, to be also priest-in-charge of Ancroft, same diocese.

25 Years Ago

From The Times of Wednesday December 5 1956

From Our Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster, Tuesday – A long whistle at the news of an increase in petrol duty was the only marked reaction produced in the Commons to the measures announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer today to fortify the economy against the effects of recent international events. Mr Macmillan announced, as an emergency measure, his proposals to raise the Customs duty on petrol and other light hydrocarbon oils and derv by 1s a gallon, from 2s 6d to 3s 6d. With increases in wholesale and retail prices, the total increase is 1s 5d a gallon, with new petrol prices ranging between 5s 6½d and 6s 5d. The background of his statement was the fall in the gold and dollar reserves (by $279m in November) and the deficit in the E.P.U. These began after Colonel Nasser's seizure of the Suez Canal.

Bond winners

The £5,000 winners in the December Premium Bonds draw are:

7AS 774809	8QL 065397
12AZ 895444	13RK 386628
15AN 549454	18RW 135595
4BP 722167	10RS 128038
5BL 765072	21RT 135573
7BK 589267	2SF 932357
8BP 767695	1TT 265311
8BZ 774706	10TN 080765
6DS 351711	12TT 509675
EL 710893	14TB 634322
6N 457288	14TS 694935
6EF 472890	9VL 858005
6EK 111431	17VF 631134
7EP 884305	7WL 776704
7FP 986585	10WF 266737
9JK 177803	6XN 952735
5KZ 309044	YK 425610
12KW 574298	3YW 333053
15KN 569535	9YZ 830763
8LZ 586613	14YS 673137
3NB 436758	15YB 495616
7PL 768503	6ZL 428725
6QS 631810	13ZL 361291
4QW 722559	14ZT 387724
7QW 524610	14ZL 398920

German banks get tough on Poland, page 15

Business News
THE TIMES Wednesday December 9 1981

Investigation censures company's ex-chief

By Nicholas Cole

A former managing director has been heavily criticized following a four-year Department of Trade investigation.

He is Mr Andrew Granville Douglas Gordon, Eton-educated managing director of the Consolidated Commercial Company (CCC) before it was acquired by Peek Foods Ltd.

The inquiry report published yesterday says that all directors of public companies should register full details of their interests in overseas companies, "including expectations for such directors and their families under Channel Island trusts".

The report concluded: "Mr Gordon ... was able to operate CCC in an unprincipled manner for his personal benefit, evading both external regulations and self-regulations alike with the acquiescence and, at times, the connivance of others involved in the business.

The investigation had been hindered by collusion, conflicting evidence, and witnesses' reluctance, the report added.

Mr Gordon was elected to the board of CCC in October 1971, and intended building up a group of companies while being prepared to dispose of assets as and when profitable: "We believe he was several years too late in starting these activities with CCC," the report said.

The group, which was placed in receivership in November 1976, made losses as a result of "deliberate actions" by Mr Gordon. His co-directors failed to supervise his activities, and he made "too many ill-considered acquisitions and led CCC into a financial crisis from which it could not emerge."

Mr Gordon dominated the firm, and avoided liabilities by arranging to have these passed on to CCC. He estimates his present personal liabilities at approximately £650,000.

Mr Gordon obtained from CCC wages worth about £420,000 from CCC, and also managed to avoid personal liabilities by passing on deals to CCC. This cost the company in the region of £500,000: "His personal interests and deals therefore cost CCC over £900,000."

Biffen accepts monopolies veto on European Ferries' bid for Sealink

By Michael Baily, Transport Correspondent

Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, has accepted the Monopolies Commission veto of European Ferries' intended bid for British Rail's Sealink shipping subsidiary on the grounds that it would reduce competition.

Privatization plans for Sealink, which could suffer losses between £5m and £10m this year, will be delayed, possibly until after the next general election.

BR, which opposed the bid, has said that talks with several British and foreign interests are taking place to produce a limited partnership for Sealink, in which the partner would invest but BR would retain control.

News of the Monopolies Commission findings was greeted with dismay in the stock market yesterday with shares of European Ferries tumbling 6p to 73p.

The shares had been buoyant climbing 11p in the last week in the hope of a favourable outcome to the proposed merger and amid speculation of a possible bid from Trafalgar House.



Mr Keith Wickenden, chairman of European Ferries: company 'disappointed' at monopolies ruling.

The European Ferries' bid was turned down on the grounds that, although it might be a solution to the problem of excess capacity on British ferry routes, it would result in a big reduction in competition — the combined company would have over 70 per cent of the Dover Straits trade—which could lead in turn to higher prices and possibiy a reduction in services.

European Ferries, in evidence to the Commission, offered to submit to price regulation if the Government insisted, but the Commission felt that market competition was better than price regulation to secure consumer interests in the English Channel.

Considerable concern is expressed in the report over existing control of ports, both by Sealink and European Ferries which would worsen if the merger took place. Neither company admits competing ferries to ports it controls.

Commenting on the decision last night, Sealink said, "We welcome the clear statement that the proposed acquisition would be against the public interest and will not be allowed. The board of Sealink will now be able to concentrate on management of the business in today's difficult conditions."

They propose to celebrate with a new marketing initiative within the next 48 hours, designed to win back some of the 8 per cent market share they have lost—mainly to European Ferries—since the pooling arrangements broke down two years ago.

European Ferries and Sealink: report on proposed merged. Monopolies and Mergers Commission, HM Stationery Office, £5.85.

Bid torpedoed, page 15

US Steel likely Marathon winner

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Dec 8

US Steel Corporation is now the clear front runner in the battle to acquire Marathon Oil, after a decision by a Federal court that its bid to acquire the company is perfectly legal.

The decision deals a potentially fatal blow to Mobil, Marathon's other suitor, which brought the case against US Steel in the hope of blocking its rival's takeover plan.

US Steel issued a statement today saying it has received 90 per cent of Marathon's shares. The steel company has offered to buy them at $125 (£65) a share, making the takeover bid the second largest in American history.

The shares were tendered to US Steel but cannot be purchased outright until another court case, involving an anti-trust challenge to Mobil's bid for Marathon, is finally settled.

Mobil has been blocked temporarily from proceeding with its takeover plan after a preliminary ruling by a Federal court that the merger violates anti-trust laws.

It is trying to circumvent the anti-trust barriers by making a new, joint offer for Marathon with Amerada Hess, another oil company which would buy Marathon's marketing and refining properties.

Even this, however, is not considered a strong enough offer to prevent the US Steel merger, which has been given two green lights in the past week.

The court decision yesterday removed one legal challenge and others like it, in the opinion of Wall Street analysts. And the Federal Trade Commission, which is reviewing the Mobil bid on anti-trust grounds, has decided, for the present, not to challenge the steel company's bid.

Mobil had asked the court to declare certain features of US Steel's agreement with Marathon illegal, on the grounds that they protect Marathon directors but hurt the company's shareholders.

Judge Joseph Kinneary ruled this week, however, that the special options Marathon offered US Steel are legal.

The options give the steel company the right to buy 10 million Marathon shares and to acquire its rich Texas oil reserves even if Mobil or some other party acquires Marathon.

Wall Street analysts say the court decision should deter other companies from offering for Marathon, since US Steel would be able to buy off the company's most valuable assets, leaving little behind for the acquiring firm.

Hopes dashed of early cut in loan rates

By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent

Any remaining hopes of a further cut in interest rates this year were effectively extinguished yesterday by news of a surge in bank lending and poor money supply figures during November.

The figures came as a considerable disappointment to the City. Government stocks finished the day with losses of about ¾ of a point and money markets closed nervously.

It had been hoped that as much of the backlog of tax arising from the civil servants' dispute started to roll in, the money supply would start to contract. Instead, the Bank of England estimates that in the four weeks to November 18 sterling M3, the broad measure of banking money, rose by about one-half per cent, or some £380m.

This appears to have been almost entirely the result of a big surge in bank lending to the private sector.

The London clearing banks reported yesterday that their lending to the private sector over the period rose by £1,200m, or by about £1,750m after seasonal adjustment.

Although part of this represented customers switching their borrowing back to the clearers to take advantage of the relative cheapness of overdraft finance in mid-November, it seems that it was not simply the clearers who were providing the private sector with credit.

The Bank of England was a heavy buyer of commercial bills in the money markets as part of its day-to-day open market operations and, after adding the credit extended through bill finance, the total increase in bank lending to the private sector may well have reached £2,500m.

Part of this surge in lending will have been to finance the payments of back tax, estimated at about £1,250m, paid over during the month. It also seems that the clearing banks continued to expand their mortgage lending, although part at least of this will have represented home buyers switching their borrowing from building societies rather than net new borrowing.

Despite these factors, the overall situation is less reassuring than the Government hoped for and is bound to make the authorities cautious over the short term.

This does not necessarily mean that interest rates cannot fall a bit further early in the new year. Much will depend on whether the authorities feel that credit demand is weakening and on how the exchange rate behaves.

At present, however, there is little sign that there is likely to be serious upward pressure on the exchange rate. There is a growing feeling that this autumn's fall in dollar interest rates has run its course, and there is no agreement on which way United States rates will move after Christmas.

The apparent increase in the demand for bank credit may in fact encourage the Government because it suggests a continued recovery in economic activity.

☐ One of the basic planks in the British Government's economic policy has been questioned by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Paris-based body representing the main industrial states (David Blake writes).

Budget deficits had no systematic relation with growth in the money supply or inflation, an OECD study published in the *OECD Observer* says. Instead, the increased budget deficits of the 1970s were simply filling in for weak credit demand from the private sector, rather than crowding it out. But the authors of the study warn that financing big deficits in future may cause problems through the high interest rates which they impose.

The study was carried out by Mr Adrian Blundell-Wignall and M Jean-Claude Chouraqui, two economists on the Paris staff of the organization. They have looked at the experience in all the main industrial countries since 1965.

Their study reveals that from the mid-seventies onwards governments were increasing their deficits at the same time as the growth in the money supply was going down. The picture is in sharp contrast to the early seventies, when high deficits and high money growth went hand in hand because governments were reflating.

Arbuthnot report ready

By Philip Robinson

Arbuthnot Latham Holdings, the merchant banker now part of the Dow Scandia banking group, will make a statement within two days relating to an internal investigation which has been running for almost five months.

The inquiry was started by Arbuthnot at the request of Mr Nicholas Goodison, the Stock Exchange chairman, on the day his Council suspended the six-partner Manchester stock-broking firm of Halliday, Simpson pending an inquiry into its business conduct. The move was unprecedented.

A week later, Sir Trevor Dawson and Mr Michael Barratt, who ran Arbuthnot's £51m unit trust offshoot, were suspended.

It has been reported that the Arbuthnot investigation, carried out by accountant Peat Marwick Mitchell, is now completed and is believed to disclose discrepancies totalling more than £300,000.

Mr Andrew Arbuthnot, the chairman, has already stressed that the interests of unit trust holders and investors will be safeguarded.

The announcement of the Arbuthnot inquiry conclusions will come three weeks before the Stock Exchange originally thought it would be able to produce its own report. But it is thought that it will make only a brief statement because of the disciplinary proceedings now expected to arise.

Bingo war not as easy as ABC

By David Hewson

Fleet Street's bingo war is starting to worry advertisers, who fear that lottery-inspired circulation increases may not be matched by rising readerships.

Mr John Hall, the new chairman of the Audit Bureau of Circulation which independently certifies the circulations of more than 2,000 newspapers, magazines and business publications, said yesterday that the ABC would have to look carefully at the effect and value for advertisers and agencies of the circulations achieved by bingo.

The popular dailies were in danger of distorting the traditional values of both circulation and readership in their sector if the war went on too long, he said.

"Too long would be the first occasion on which there were contrary movements in the readership data and the circulation data—if the readership looked as if it was going down while the circulation was going up", Mr Hall said.

"My worry from ABC's point of view is that circulation figures may be less valuable to an advertiser than they have been. The danger is that the circulation data will be devalued. The worst possible case would be that the circulation would go up, readership remain static or go down, while rate-cards would remain based on circulation."

Mr Hall stressed that he had no reason to believe this was happening at the moment. "I think that sometime during 1982 such figures could show up. I am not aware of any industry outcry about it yet but obviously it is potentially difficult. With any other increase in circulation, you can expect it to be based on a need to read the paper."

There is no doubt that bingo has strongly boosted the circulation of several titles. It was introduced by Express Newspapers' *Daily Star* on June 15 and quickly followed by News Group's *The Sun* and the *News of the World*, the *Daily Express* and *Sunday Express*, and Mirror Group Newspapers' *Daily* and *Sunday Mirror* and *Sunday People*. The promotion is estimated to have added 200,000 to the circulation of the *Star*, 300,000 to that of the *Daily Mirror* and more than 500,000 to *The Sun*.

But these figures only indicate how many copies of the papers are bought. If they are bought only for the bingo numbers, advertisers will feel their promotion has been devalued.

The twice-yearly National Readership Survey, which asks people which titles they have actually read, rather than simply bought, will give some indication of whether this is happening.

Morley sells nearly half his stake in Belhaven

By Nicholas Cole

Mr Eric Morley, joint chairman of the Belhaven Brewery Group of Dunbar, East Lothian, has privately disposed of 300,000 shares in the company.

The move, which leaves his personal holding at 370,000 shares, has been made solely to reduce his personal indebtedness, Mr Morley said last night.

He said that this indebtedness arose after the purchase by Belhaven earlier this year of a two-thirds stake in the company that runs the annual Miss World contest, after which he and associates were offered an option to take up an extra 520,000 shares.

The proposed purchase date of these shares was then brought forward: "I said to the Belhaven board that I could not afford, because of personal circumstances, to buy the extra shares but would be prepared to take a gamble and borrow the money and take up the option," he said.

At the time, the interest on the borrowings was £22,000, but has since risen to £23,000. "I held out as long as I could, but eventually after I had paid the second instalment of interest, decided I could not shoulder that burden any more," he said, adding that he would eventually have to sell.

He has sold the shares for 30p each, the price he gave for them. Their range this year has been between 18p and 42p, and they closed yesterday at 20p.

He says he has no intention of selling more of his stake in Belhaven.

British Steel seeks extra £80m on external financing limit

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Mr Ian MacGregor, British Steel Corporation chairman, is urging the Government to increase the corporation's external financing limit by up to £80m above the £350m allocated provisionally for next year.

The corporation, which lost £196m in the first six months of the present financial year, is still involved in discussions with Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, over the latest corporate plan. Final decisions on the plan, which will require approval from the European Commission, are expected within the next two weeks.

But Mr MacGregor apparently has sought between £70m and £80m more than that provisionally allocated in the Government's White Paper on Public Spending, published last week.

This year the corporation has an external financing limit of £730m, substantially down on last year's figure, but the final sum which will be available for 1982-83 will be determined by decisions on the corporate plan.



MacGregor: waiting for decision on plan

British Steel, along with other nationalized industries, has sought considerably more than the Government has allocated. The £1,300m announced by the Government last week was about half the total which the industries collectively had bid for initially.

In setting the external financing limit for British Steel, Mr Jenkin is being urged to take account of any loss of business which may follow from curbs on the corporation's sales to the American market, and also on the speed and level at which the corporation is able to lift its prices under the coordinated price increase structure being organized by the European Commission.

If the Government refuses to increase the limit beyond the provisional allocation, the corporation will be under further pressure to achieve economies through more disposals and shedding of labour beyond the present round of discussions taking place with steel industry unions designed to cut 15,000 more jobs over the next few months.

Mr Jenkin will be questioned today on the corporate plan for steel when he appears before the Select Committee on Industry and Trade. The sensitive issue of European steel exports, which is to be the subject of talks between the EEC and American administration officials later this week, may also be raised.

In the talks EEC officials are expected to offer voluntary restraints by European producers.

Stock Markets
FT Index 521.7 down 11.8
FT Gilts 63.87 down 0.44
FT All Share 310.63 down 3.74
Bargains 17,304

Sterling
$1.9270 down 90 points
Index 91.7 down 0.2
New York $1.9328

Dollar
Index 106.5 up 0.7
DM 2.2452 up 47 pts

Gold
$418.50 up $2
New York $410.50

Money
3 mth sterling 14⅞-14¾
3 mth Euro $ 12 13/16-12 11/16
6 mth Euro $ 13⅛-12⅞

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Amstrad	8p to 345p
Anglo Met	6p to 86p
Anvil	12p to 145p
Boustead	5p to 111p
Burt Boulton	10p to 200p
Cornell Dresses	10p to 146p
Hill C. Bristol	5p to 140p
Massey-Ferg	7p to 97p
McCorquodale	5p to 135p
Mills & Allen	13p to 463p
Newmark L.	8p to 295p
Polly Peck	15p to 375p
Royal Worcester	5p to 165p
Stag Furniture	4p to 87p
Vibroplant	15p to 173p

Falls

BTR	14p to 336p
Distillers	9p to 184p
Euro Ferries	6p to 73p
Ferguson Ind	6p to 78p
Fisons	8p to 136p
Gen Accident	12p to 332p
Inchcape	15p to 283p
LRC Int	2½p to 41½p
MIM Holdings	12p to 210p
Nat Westminster	13p to 395p
Philips Lamps	15p to 415p
Ranger Oil	20p to 450p
Unilever	10p to 603p
Western Areas	12p to 199p
Yule Catto	7p to 86p

Rates plea by CBI

Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, has called on the Government to find an alternative for business as well as domestic rates and to include provisions to help industry in its forthcoming Green Paper on local authority finance.

Sir Terence said in a letter to Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, that industry's £5,000m local authority rates bill was the largest tax now faced by companies at a time when profitability was at a record low level.

Profits up

Bass, one of the country's big six brewers, has pushed pretax profits up by £20m to £133.2m in the year to September, despite the national fall in beer volumes described as the worst in the last 30 years.

Results include the first time contribution from Coral Leisure taken over by the group in a £80.2m deal earlier in the year. Profits from Coral helped to more than double profits in the leisure division to £24.7m and further growth is expected next year.

Financial Editor, page 15

£80m contract

The Ministry of Defence placed an order yesterday with British Aerospace Dynamics Group for two military communications satellites and their associated ground equipment.

The contract, awarded to the group in association with its principal sub-contractor, Marconi Space and Defence Systems, is valued at about £80m.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Express 'float' plan date

The future of the Express group of newspapers may become clearer on December 22. Mr Nigel Broackes, chairman of Trafalgar House, which owns the newspapers and the Morgan-Grampian group of trade magazines, said yesterday that his annual statement, due to be made on that date, would contain proposals relating to a demerger of Trafalgar's publishing interests from the rest of the group. Lord Matthews, Trafalgar's chief executive, confirmed that the group would like to float off the newspaper interests. "I find it a very attractive proposition", he added.

Trafalgar yesterday reported a £6m increase in profits for the year to September 30 to £55m on sales almost 12 per cent higher at £1,200m. The dividend is being raised to 8.86p gross, against 7.64p a year earlier.

Details, page 16

Feather in his cap

The man who sold Peking ducks to the Chinese and ducks feet as aphrodisiacs yesterday received the industry's top marketing award from Mr Peter Walker, Agriculture Minister.

Mr Joe "Duckling" Buckner, a founder member of Cherry Valley Farms, Lincolnshire, is now vice-chairman of the world's largest duck production company.

Construction output rises

Increased repair and maintenance work and road-building led to a 2 per cent increase in total output by the British construction industry in the third quarter. Output remained 11 per cent lower than in the same period of last year, but was the first rise since the same three months of 1979. The total value of all construction work in July-September, according to Department of the Environment, was £5,533m).

Opec set for second price cut

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries looks set to cut oil prices for the second time this year.

Proposals that the range of prices charged by members be narrowed is high on the agenda of the annual meeting which started in Abu Dhabi yesterday.

In October, Saudi Arabia forced many Opec members to reduce prices and it is widely expected that heavy crude oil producers will lower their prices by a further 50 cents.

Ministers will be concentrating or bringing Opec prices more into line with the market by honing the Geneva differential.

☐ The International Monetary Market, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange division which trades financial futures contracts in six foreign currencies, gold, and United States dollar interest rate instruments, opens trading today.

Fall in UK car output

Car output in the United Kingdom in the first 11 months was down by 3 per cent on a year earlier according to provisional Government figures. The drop was caused largely by industrial disputes.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, car production in the four weeks to November 21 was 68,000. In July, the adjusted figure was 106,000 and in August 71,000.

☐ An appeal to the Government to give the motor industry equal treatment with other leading industries was made last night by Mr Geoffrey Moore, president of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

Speaking at the society's banquet in London, he called for the removal of the 10 per cent special car tax and the easing of hire purchase restrictions on cars.

New chairman

Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, has been elected chairman of the Group of Ten, representing the central banks of most of the leading industrial countries. He succeeds Dutch central bank president Jelle Zijlstra on January 1.

TODAY

Mrs Shirley Williams, MP, addresses Industrial Society on Industrial Democracy. TUC Economic Committee. Select Committee on Energy hears from British National Oil Corporation about North Sea oil depletion policy. Opec meets in Abu Dhabi. British balance of payments (third quarter); central government transactions, including borrowing requirements (November).

Japan to retaliate over bid

Tokyo, Dec 8. — Fujitsu, the Japanese electronics company, may seek retaliation if the United States Government refuses to intervene in an American contract bid which Fujitsu lost despite being the lowest bidder.

Fujitsu is threatening to ask the semi-official Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) to consider Japan's national interest when deciding future international bidding for communications projects. Mr Takuma Yamamoto, company president, said Fujitsu would take this course if the United States Federal Communications Commission (FCC) upholds the recent decision by American Telephone and Telegraph to award a contract to an American company despite a lower Fujitsu bid.

Fujitsu has claimed it lost the contract to Western Electric to provide part of an optical fibre communications system between Boston and Washington because of political pressure from Congress.

When the Japanese bid was rejected, American Telephone and Telegraph said this was in the national interest.

Asked if Fujitsu might ask the NTT to take similar action should the dispute not be resolved, Mr Yamamoto said: "Yes, I would." — Reuter.

Brittan denies Government curbs on state sector borrowing

By Frances Williams

Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, denied yesterday that the Government was holding up progress towards allowing state industries to borrow from private capital markets.

The Government was attracted to the idea, provided certain conditions were met, he said.

The two main conditions were that the state industries should not compete unfairly with the private sector for investment funds; and that the schemes should provide a spur to efficiency and profitability to offset the additional costs of raising finance privately rather than through the Government's National Loans Fund.

But Mr Brittan, who was addressing a seminar in London on state industry finances and private capital, admitted that there were problems in devising schemes which met these conditions.

Referring to the proposed British Telecom bond, he said that Telecom's monopoly power, and the Goverment's duty to make sure it was not abused, raised genuine difficulties.

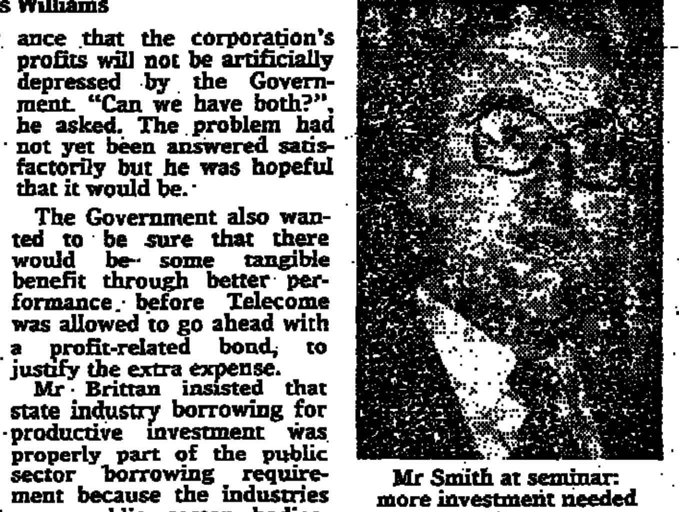
"In an industry where real unit costs should be falling, the consumer needs some protection against the bond being remunerated at his expense. At the same time the investor needs reassurance that the corporation's profits will not be artificially depressed by the Government. "Can we have both?", he asked. The problem had not yet been answered satisfactorily but he was hopeful that it would be.

The Government also wanted to be sure that there would be some tangible benefit through better performance before Telecome was allowed to go ahead with a profit-related bond, to justify the extra expense.

Mr Brittan insisted that state industry borrowing for productive investment was properly part of the public sector borrowing requirement because the industries were public sector bodies. "In looking for 'private finance' we are not therefore looking for finance which would fall outside the PSBR," he said.

He repeated the Treasury's argument that additional investment by state industries would "crowd out" other investment, within the constraint of limited growth in total money incomes in the economy. He also attacked the notion that there was a vast pool of savings waiting to be tapped.

"I believe this notion is not only misconceived but is virtually the reverse of reality," he said. "Far from there being vast unused resources, we are witnessing intense competition for funds. In such circumstances the consequence of greater public sector investment and hence borrowing will be to increase inflationary pressures, raise interest rates and put further pressure on the private sector."



Mr Smith at seminar: more investment needed

Mr John Smith, the Opposition front bench spokesman on trade, told the seminar of senior managers from the nationalized industries and City financial institutions that there needed to be an increase in state industry investment, even if that meant an increase in the PSBR.

He criticized the present system of controlling state industry investment, which he said was being "tested to destruction". He wanted to see welfare spending and seed-corn investment disentangled. Britain was the only country which included state industry investment in a PSBR, he added.

He also wanted the Government to adopt a more flexible approach to the needs of individual industries, and to experiment with new methods of financing public sector investment outside the PSBR in collaboration with the private sector.

Mr Bill Mackworth-Young, chairman of Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank strongly urged that nationalized industries should have access to the specialized facilities of financial markets. To deny this access for no better reason than state ownership seemed wrong and against the broader national interest.

He disagreed with the Treasury that simply because an enterprise was owned by the state its borrowings were by implication guaranteed by the Government. If a financing package stood on its own feet in relation to assets or to future income, it would compete in the financial markets on level terms with the private sector.

No elation at Airbus on TriStar decision

From Arthur Reed, Toulouse, Dec 8

Lockheed's decision to phase out production of the TriStar airline, partly because of competition from the European Airbus, caused no elation in this centre of the European aircraft industry.

First reaction from senior executives of Airbus Industrie, the European aerospace consortium producing the A300 and A310 airbuses was that no big new markets would open up at once to Europe as the TriStar is not in the same sales bracket as the airbuses.

They believe that potential Lockheed sales will go to Boeing and that this additional work will enable Boeing to reduce costs and prices against the Europeans.

The biggest impact is likely to be in the engine sector.

Rolls-Royce is bidding to have the RJ500 engine, which it is developing with the Japanese, accepted for a new 150-seater airliner, the A320, which Airbus is planning, and the loss of TriStar business, with its serious implications on future production and manpower prospects at the company's Derby works will make Rolls even more anxious to do a deal with the Europeans.

Airbus Industrie, in which British Aerospace is a 20 per cent partner, with the French and the West Germans holding 40 per cent each, indicated here today that it will make a decision on which engine will go into tha A320 by March.

M Pierre Pailleret, marketing senior vice-president, said that discussions with world airlines have confirmed a wide market for a 150-seater. Orders from at least two airlines are needed to launch the A320 and Air France which has already said it will take 50 aircraft, and Delta, the United States operator, which will need up to 100 in the long term, could meet this requirement.

To become the engine supplier to such a programme would go a long way to help Rolls fill the gap left by the Lockheed phase-out.

The big United States engine manufacturers, General Electric and Pratt and Whitney, at competing with Rolls for the Airbus order, however. At the some time, Rolls has been talking to both the United States companies about a joint engine project with the Japanese.

M Roger Beteille, general manager and executive vice-president of Airbus, said: "Rolls has put in a bid which is entirely credible technically on the RJ500. The other two manufacturers are as advanced on the technical side and the race is on.

"We have a bunch of proposals which we are carefully looking at and the technology level which is offered is pretty close from one to the other."

Development of the RJ500 engine is being carried out at the Rolls-Royce works at Patchway, Bristol, and early test engines are complete.

Airbus executives also said here today that Rolls is trying to have its RB211 engine, of the same type as that which powers the Lockheed TriStar, accepted tor the European A300, a market which at present is the preserve of the United States engine companies.

Rolls has made similar attempts in the past, but has always lost the competion to its United States rivals. The impetus for a new attempt has been provided by an order for six A300s by Libyan Airline and the strong possibility that, in view of deteriorating relations between the United States and Libya, Washington will place an embargo on the sale of United States engines to that country.

UK leads with new gas plant

A gas-making plant in Fife, which it is hoped will earn millions of pounds for Britain, attracted more than 70 engineers from a dozen countries yesterday.

The heart of the process, turning coal into gas, remained a secret but overseas visitors to the British Gas Westfield development centre were shown enough to demonstrate that gas was being produced more efficiently than in any other gassifier in the world. It is the first to turn its waste out as a usable product.

Mr Ray Sharman, director of the British Gas International Consultancy Service, said: "This is the only plant of its type in the world. I think we are at least four years ahead of our competitors."

The development of the slagging gassifier has taken eight and £30m. British Gas has invested about a third of that, the Americans around £15m, and the Germans the remainder. The gassifier is thought to have wide market potential in the years ahead. Apart from substitute natural gas, it can also produce medium-calorific balue gas to supply power generation units, and gas for iron and steel-making and for the chemical industry.

Since there is no immediate need for coal gassification plants in the United Kingdom, the first commercial units are likely to be built in the United States.

Mr Snarman said "British Gas will earn many millions of pounds in royalties over the next two or three decades. We will be selling licences to overseas users of the technology."

A big advance in the stagging gassifier is that its waste hardens into glasy black frit which can be employed in construction and road-building.

IN BRIEF

Cadbury on need for big firms to decentralize

The shape of business over the next 20 years would include the disappearance of large centralized companies and the traditional management "pyramid", Sir Adrian Cadbury, chairman of Cadbury Schweppes, told a business conference yesterday.

He said that to competitive internationally, the United Kingdom would have to cut its costs and, to meet less predictable market conditions, would have to become more flexible.

This meant reversing the trend of the past 20 years towards large centralized organizations. He added: "We will want in future to break down these organizations into their separate business units and to give these units freedom to compete in their particular markets.

"Large companies will become more like federations of small enterprises — not because 'small is beautiful', but because big is expensive and inflexible."

Fair deal plea

□ A fairer deal for Britain's Cooperative societies at relatively modest cost to the Chancelllor of the Exchequer is called for by the Cooperative Union in its proposals for next year's Budget, "or any fiscal measures in advance of it". Among other matters, the union asks for consideration of "a modern disregard for income tax purposes of share interest credited to members of industrial and provident societies." The union is also calling for a cut in VAT to 12½ per cent, coupled with personal allowances linked to the retail price index.

'Turmoil' threat

□ Australia willsuffer a period of unprecedented industrial turmoil if the Government succeeds in blocking a new deal negotiated by metalworkers here, Mr John Halfpenny, Victoria secretary of the Amalgamated Metal Workers and Shipwrights Union said. Under the agreement the metalworkers obtained a pay rise of about 20 per cent and a cut in working hours.

Watch import curbs

□ Hongkong has called on France for prompt discussions after the French Government's decision to impose new restrictions on the import of Hongkong-made watches. Last week, France said it was to restrict Hongkong's export of quartz watches to 5.5 million for the period October this year to December next year.

Australians wary

□ Most Australian stockmarket analysts are taking a wary view of the likely performance of Australian stock markets over the next 12 months. Brokers and Analysts in Melbourne and Sydney are generally optimistic about the short-term prospects, but less sure about the medium to long-term.

Korea ship orders

□ Foreign ship orders received by South Korea in the first 11 months of this year totalled 1,466 million gross tons for 78 ships, valued at $1,991m (about £1,038m) the Korea Shipbuilders Association said yesterday.

French steel output

□ French crude steel production in the first 11 months of this year totalled 19.46 million tonnes, 10.2 per cent down on the corresponding period of 1980, the Steel Industry Association reports.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	14½%
Barclays	14½%
BCCI	15 %
Consolidated Crds.	15 %
C. Hoare & Co	*14½%
Lloyds Bank	14½%
Midland Bank	14½%
Nat Westminster	14½%
TSB	14½%
Williams & Glyn's	14½%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 12½%, up to £50,000 13¼% over £50,000 13½%.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Interest rate hopes snowed under

Any hopes of further pre-Christmas cheer on the interest rate front were comprehensively blanketed under some disappointing November money supply figures yesterday. The Bank of England's preliminary estimate is that sterling M3, the broad measure of banking money, rose by a half per cent (or some £380m) in the four weeks to November 18 — a period in which the money supply should have been falling as tax payments held up by the civil servants' dispute started to roll in.

Deferred tax payments were, apparently, worth an estimated £1,250m, which must have meant that the public sector had a negative influence on domestic credit expansion. The financing of at least part of these tax payments through recourse to bank borrowing was, of course, fully expected. Even so, a rise of £1,200m in clearing bank lending, put as high as £1,750m on a seasonally adjusted basis, was something of a shock. Total lending to the private sector may well have been of the order of £2,500m.

The clearers, hardly surprisingly since they are in the business to lend, do not appear unduly perturbed. They explain away most of the increase in their lending under three headings. First, the financing of tax payments; secondly, the structure of relative interest rates, which led to many large borrowers switching back into overdraft facilities; and thirdly, a further significant increase in mortgage lending, a good part probably being no more than the refinancing of building society loans.

That is as may be. The fact remains that the figures do nothing to encourage the idea that the authorities are going to find it easy to get back on top of the monetary situation — in terms of controlling bank lending, of maintaining the funding momentum, and regulating banking liquidity.

On an operational basis, the Bank now seems likely to err on the side of caution in allowing interest rates to fall until there is clear evidence that it has a firm grasp on the situation. As far as medium term strategy goes, it is high time the authorities injected their own contribution into the debate on the usefulness of the various monetary aggregates and, albeit more contentious, how the banking/building society structure might most sensibly evolve.

Channel Ferries

Painful decisions to come

The Monopolies Commission's veto of European Ferries intended bid for Sealink may have averted a political storm. But it still leaves a picture of hopeless overcapacity, low prices and no profitability illustrating the current state of the United Kingdom ferry industry. In effect the Commission has told the main operators, European Ferries, Sealink, owned by British Rail, and P & O, to rationalize the industry themselves, which could involve painful if necessary decisions to cut back on routes, trim the number of employees and sell some ships.

Such rationalization is vital given the ravages waged by the price war over the last two years, and the war would be intensified should the French put their subsidized money where their intentions are and double their share of the cross-Channel market to 40 per cent.

In its judgment that a merger would have reduced competition in ferry services and at ports, the Commission has rubber-stamped the current situation which has benefited the customer. And rightly so. However, there can be no competition if companies are forced out of business. European Ferries shipping division lost £9.3m in the first half of this year. Sealinks losses in 1981 are estimated at between £5m and £10m after the £3.9m loss last year, while P & O's losses totalled £5.2m for the first half.

For European Ferries the decision is a huge blow. Traditionally shipping profits, peaking at £18.3m in 1978, have funded the property development side and enabled the group to expand into merchant banking through the Singer and Friedlander acquisition last year. Without a strong shipping contribution, European Ferries takes on the appearance of a highly geared, high risk property development company. Pretax profits this year could halve to around £15m, so little wonder the company has run a for sale sign up the flagpole.

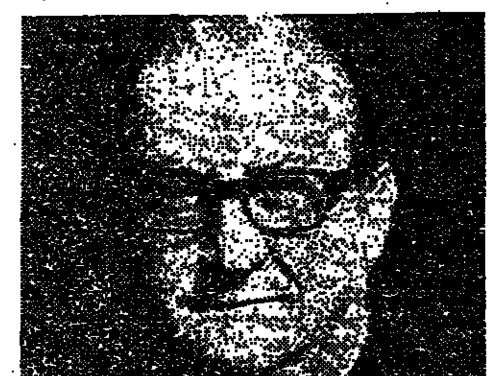
Sealink and its British Rail parent wish to float the company on the stock market in two years. This is a pipedream at present given the state of the industry, the mounting losses and a balance sheet showing two thirds of net assets (£169m) in the form of loans and leasing liabilities from the parent.

So it is likely that BR will invite other ferry groups with Scandinavians to the fore, to subscribe (up to £30m) for a joint venture arrangement until profitability is restored. By then, of course, privatization may no longer be the key political cure-all.

Bass

Coral's useful contribution

In one of the worst years for brewers Bass has done well to turn in a £20m rise in pretax profits to £133m. The main interest, however, was obviously to see how Coral has fared under its new proprietors. With Coral's leisure interests now fully integrated (for a nine month contribution), the group point out that its results cannot be separately identified; but there is help from Bass's first attempt to give a divisional breakdown. From a £3.2m loss in its first quarter, Coral has probably contributed about £12m of the £14.5m jump in profits from the hotels, racing and hotels division to £24.7m and is expected to improve further next


Bass chairman Mr Derek Palamar

year. The rest of the increase in this area has come largely from Bass's own hotels, together with exchange translations from overseas interests.

With trading profits up £6m to £128m from these activities Bass looks to have eked higher market share at the expense of profit margins. But with beer sales nationally probably over the worst, Bass should now be able to capitalize on its position. So, with the expected higher earnings from Coral, and excluding property sales, Bass could make £145m to £150m next year. At yesterday's share price the yield on the total gross dividend, up at 13.5p against 12.2p, is 6.4 per cent.

● *Hard hit by the recession, the timber companies are now just about ticking over until an upturn in their fortunes occurs. At present there is precious little sign of any increase in demand, while overseas the problems of some concerns seem to be multiplying. But such has been the rationalization in the industry that the gearing effect of an increase in demand could eventually be quite dramatic.*

Of the two reporting yesterday Montague L. Meyer showed a return to profitability in the first six months of the current year following last year's heavy second half losses. On turnover little changed at £155m, trading profit came out at £5.3m against £9.1m in the first half of the corresponding year, while at the pretax level profits were £567,000 against £3.1m. At International Timber pretax profits for the six months to September came to £1.5, compared with £1.99m in the half year September 1980.

Overseas activities occasionally cushion the groups from the worst of a United Kingdom downturn, but this time for Meyer the Dutch operation is losing about £1m at an annual rate. Both Australia and the Far East are also in the red, though not to the same extent.

Peter Norman

Poland: why the German banks are getting tough

A second successive year of badly depressed profits has resulted in a perceptible toughening of attitudes on the part of most German banks towards the Poles.

For most banks, 1981 has been a hard slog. Although the profitability of classical banking business has improved over the second half of the year, many are facing heavy write-offs on their securities portfolios and domestic credit business.

In these circumstances, the last thing that bankers wanted to hear was that Poland was anxious not to pay in full some $500m (£255m) in interest and repayment of debt that had been set two months ago as a condition for the completion of the agreement rescheduling $2,400m worth of Polish bank debt due this year.

Last week, German bankers were speculating that the Polish unwillingness to pay could result in the collapse of the rescheduling agreement worked out at the beginning of October. They have since been given verbal assurances that Poland will pay the money, but scepticism remains.

The German banks have been taking a tough line with the Poles, insisting that the 1981 rescheduling and subsequent debt restructuring exercises can only go ahead if the outstanding money owed to the 460 Western creditor banks is paid by the end of the year.

Poland has up to now kept up with the interest payments due on its Western debt, albeit with slight delays. But bankers are worried that the worsening state of the Polish domestic economy could make it impossible for the country to fulfil its obligation to pay back at the end of 1981 the agreed 5 per cent of the principle that was due for repayment over the last nine months of this year.

West Germany is Poland's biggest single creditor in the West both for official and unofficial debt. Of the $27,000m of hard currency debt owed by the Poles, some $4,500m are owed to West Germany. The bulk of this, $2,700m worth, is not covered by state guarantee.

Significantly, a West German bank — the Dresdner Bank — was chosen to lead the task force that negotiates with the Poles on behalf of the 460 Western creditor banks.

Not guaranteed

But the Dresdner Bank is not Poland's biggest creditor in the German banking community.

According to unofficial estimates, the trade union owned bank Für Gemeinwirtschaft, is owed a total of 950m Marks, of which DM 780m are not guaranteed. Commerzbank occupies the second place, with an overall creditor position of DM 910m, of which DM 600m are not guaranteed.

The Deutsche Bank, West Germany's largest and most profitable bank, is said to be owed DM700m of which DM 450m are guaranteed while Dresdner Bank occupies forth place with its creditor position being put at DM 680m, of which DM 400m are not covered by guarantee.

Among these four banks (and there are many other lesser creditors), views differ in how to treat the Polish risks.

Dr Hans Friderichs, the chief executive of the Dresdner Bank, surprised some of his competitors in Frankfurt last week by announcing that the Dresdner Bank had decided to create a reserve to cover risks in its Polish Exposure. The announcement coming from the bank which must have the best insight into Poland's domestic affairs, was hardly encouraging. Still less was his observation that the reserve would probably be built up without first obtaining assurances that the funds set aside would qualify for tax relief.

Profits squeeze

The Dresdner Bank's statement was also remarkable because it is one of the large West German banks that has been suffering — and is still suffering — from a serious profits squeeze.

Dr Friderichs effectively dispelled the myth that the only bank setting aside funds to cover its Polish risks was the Deutsche Bank — and this allegedly because it was one of the few German banks that can afford to do so.

The Deutsche Bank has been characteristically cautious in commenting on its policy towards its Polish debt. Its last interim report merely says that the bank will have to increase considerably its already large provision for risks in its lending to individual borrowers and countries. But in a recent speech, Herr Hermann J. Abs, the Deutsche Bank's honorary chairman, laid down some guidelines that the present board would be almost certain to respect.

Herr Abs said banks should not wait for a formal moratorium before having to make provisions for country risks. Reserves should be built up in the event of large rescheduling operations, anticipated drops in interest payments or deferral of repayment.

In contrast, both the Bank Für Gemeinwirtschaft and Commerzbank have argued that no reserves need to be made in respect of Poland as long as it pays its interest. For these banks the planned rescheduling agreement would, presumably, amount to an acceptable business proposition as it is envisaged that Poland should pay interest at 1.75 per cent over the London interbank rate.

There is probably a strong element of poker as well as prudence in the Dresdner Bank's decision to build up a Polish risk fund. No West German banker wants the rescheduling agreement to collapse but they are equally determined to show the Poles that they cannot restructure debt for nothing. Hence the insistence that Poland should pay the $500m owing by the end of the year before any further discussion can begin on granting new credits to the Poles or rescheduling the debts due for payment in 1982 and subsequent years.

Bankers believe that to meet their obligations, the Poles will have to tap other sources for the money and that Western governments are unlikely to step into the breach. As the year moves towards a close it appears as if the Soviet Union will have to dig deep into its pocket to support its wayward satellite if it wants to preserve the Polish debt rescheduling operation and with it the financial credibility of the Comecon block.

European Ferries' bid is torpedoed


Britain-bound motorists prepare to board the Townsend-Thoresen (part of European Ferries) cross-Channel ferry Pride of Free Enterprise at Calais: Sealink would have been ruthlessly pruned if merger had taken place.

In classic terms, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission was undoubtedly right to turn down European Ferries' bid for BR's Sealink shipping subsidiary.

But it is wrong so far as the Government's privatization plans are concerned and wrong in terms of BR's short-term need for raising cash for the railway by selling off non-railway possessions.

Whether it will be right or wrong for the consumer remains to be seen. The commission, as one might expect, has no doubt about that, but the future of Sealink and of the Channel routes remains clouded.

No doubt this decision will prevent the evil that could possibly have arisen from the merger. Whether the good that might otherwise arise will actually do so remains to be seen. It will be largely up to the Government, British Rail and Sealink.

The decision was right in that the merger would have given a combined company over 70 per cent of the Channel trade, a hefty margin over the generally accepted definition of a monopoly.

And there is no doubt that this raised fears in many people's minds. That the unions were opposed is hardly surprising in the circumstances.

European Ferries made no bones in its evidence that the merger would be followed by a pretty ruthless pruning of Sealink's land and sea operations. Sealink's 800 headquarters staff suggested "gross over-manning" and EF, with a rationalized and decentralized operation, would have little use for most of them, it said. There would also be a loss of 1,650 seafarers as ships and routes were excised.

Equally unsurprising was the opposition of rival ferry lines on the Sealink routes, especially those of continental countries which have a cosy relationship with BR within the Sealink consortium.

But the Road Haulage Association, the Freight Transport Association and the Passenger Shipping Association were opposed as well, suggesting that EF has perhaps too ruthless an image.

Clearly these people feared EF would use its stronger position to disadvantage in the form of higher charges and perhaps reduced choice of service, rather than, as EF claimed in its evidence, to the advantage of users through lower costs and prices and a more efficient service.

However, it is worth noting that two private enterprise operators not directly involved in the Dover Straits — the Bell Lines short-sea container group and Unilever's Norfolk Line, had no such fears.

Bell Line, whose maverick chairman Mr George Hollwey often takes an independant line on issues, thought a strong intergrated commercial competitor was preferable on balance to a nationalized operator owned by a heavily subsidized railway administration.

Norfolk Line put its finger on the spot by suggesting that the central issue was restriction of competition through control of ports by ferry operators (something both Sealink and EF are found guilty of). Given safeguards against that, there was no objection to the merger.

But all that is water under the bridge now. The question is, what happens next?

Sealink's performance has been pretty poor in both traffic and financial terms. Though still, with its partners, the biggest overall carrier, its share has dropped from 34 per cent to 27 per cent since the pooling operation broke down in 1979 and the competition got fierce.

Its profit (loss) before interest from 1976 to 1980 was (£2.2m), £6.5m, £9.2m, £9.7m, £2.6m on a turnover that rose from £89m to £196m in the period. EF's figures were £14.3m, £19.6m, £22.4m, £20.4m, £14m on a turnover that rose from £84m to £164m over the period.

Not all of this is Sealink's fault. It has been starved of investment for years by a cash-short parent that needed all the money it could get for its own railway time-table. The railway interest in a Channel Tunnel also held up ship replacement for many years — BR did not want to compete with itself. And Sealink has been pressured into building British most recently to prop up Ulster's shaky economy, at great cost to itself in delayed delivery. Its new ships for the Channel took far longer to build than EF's European-built vessels and are not as slick.

But now that the traumatic EF bid is out of the way, Sealink is ready to set out a new positive course.

"We're all wearing funny hats and false noses" said a staff member at Sealink's Euston headquarters yesterday. "It's been getting everyone down. Now there is a lot of drive and enthusiasm."

But will there be matching enthusiasm on the part of prospective partners? Scandinavian lines such as Denmark's DFDS and Trafalgar House have been mentioned as possible suitors. But BR's insistent pre-conditions — that it should retain control, and that the business should be kept together and not sold piecemeal as rivals P and O recommend — are pretty off-putting.

"Why trouble?" — asks one earlier suitor who has already jilted the bride. "Why get involved in a minefield without the prospect of a really good return?"

Sealink's idea would be a 30/30 partnership with a private sector outfit, the remainder being floated on the Stock Exchange. For its — and our — sake, let us hope this materializes. But Mr David Howell, the Secretary of State for Transport, who is hungry for more privatization, will not be the only one with doubts.

Michael Baily

Business Diary: Landscape with calendar girls

Nina Carter, one of the first of the page three girls, later made it into high fashion and became one of the handful of models to be seen in an eight page feature in *Vogue* magazine with David Bailey taking the pictures.

Miss Carter retired from modelling at 30 two years ago and yesterday reappeared as a businesswoman, the coordinator for a new calendar from the family-run Howitt Printing Group of Nottingham.

Carter, one of the first of the Manikin cigar advertisement girls, is not only into organizing her up and coming sisters for calendars but is also developing a range of cosmetics based on natural ingredients.

"I like it the other side of the camera", she said yesterday. "But you can't just recruit the girls in the topless end of the business. It's better to have high fashion models who have that extra sophistication but who are willing to drop a strap."

Howitts is running off a limited edition of 2,000 copies of the calendar mainly as a promotional give-away to possible clients to celebrate their first year in the £7m annual sales bespoke calendar market. In these hard times it is the one sector of the calendar market which seems to be growing.


Spot the pin-ups: Patrick Howitt, chairman of calender publishers Howitts, in London yesterday with Nina Carter (right) and model Janet Conway.

Bespoke calendars are those produced as a one-off for a company, a genre first made famous by Pirelli. But girlie calendars are by no means the staple product in bespoke calendars, according to Patrick Howitt, 37-year-old chairman of Howitts, which reckons that 85 per cent of all calendars are printed in the East Midlands area centred on Nottingham.

Howitts, hitherto a colour printer of items like brochures, has already sold three million bespoke calendars to 26 clients this past year and has in its sights the two sector leaders, Bemrose at Derby and Thomas Forman in Nottingham.

So far Howitts have found English landscapes are most in demand for bespoke calendars, with wildlife and animals running a close second. Even the demand for old master paintings seems to outpace that for the girlie calendars.

Nevertheless, the calendar put together under Nina Carter's direction is, in Howitt's phrase, a sophisticated girlie calendar, slightly tongue in cheek. All the photographs — by Japan's Naruhito Inui, better known as Naru — were taken within 35 miles of Nottingham just to show expensive trips abroad are not strictly necessary.

Tacchinograph

I do not recall often seeing turkey (tacchino) on restaurant menus on my visits to Italy, but according to Sue Richardson, of the University of Manchester, a student of the world turkey industry, Italians eat and rear more turkeys than any other country in Europe.

In the past twelve years, according to her new study, average annual consumption has increased more than 500 per cent to 3.93 kilograms, nearly twice as much as we eat in Britain.

Instead of being roasted as a Christmas treat, it is bought all the year round, mainly in small cuts. Partly because it is cheap and partly because of the recent health scare over hormone-treated calves, it has become a popular substitute for veal. According to Mrs Richardson, turkey is a frequent ingredient of dishes such as



scalloppe Milanese, saltimbocca, costolette Bolognese and vitello tonato, which in this country would, I suppose, offend the Trade Descriptions Act.

It was not always so commonplace. When first introduced from the New World, the turkey was regarded as a great luxury a suitable gift for princes and noblemen. What is thought to be the first book containing recipes for cooking turkey was printed in Italy by Bartolomeo Scappi in 1570.

* *The Italian Turkey Industry*, by Sue Richardson, published by the Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Manchester (£3).

Banknotes

What have The Jam, Reckless Eric and David Somerset, Chief Cashier of the Bank of England, in common? No — not an investment in Norton Warburg. They all take part in an educational cassette produced by the Trustee Savings Bank for use in schools.

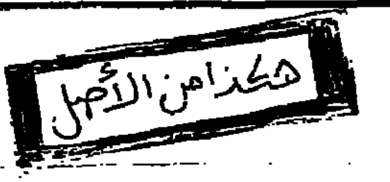
The cassette is part of the TSB Money Project/Kit put together by the bank and aimed at school children in the 14-17 age group. TSB also organises an annual Rock School competition which was won last year by a group called Mother Hen from St. Paul's School Barnes, West London.

One of the runners-up had the bright idea of calling their group Instant Credit which must have gone some way towards getting them noticed by the sponsors. The finals of this year's competition will be held in regional centres from February 25 onwards.

Last year's finals were televised on BBC TV's *Nationwide* programme and was seen by over 10 million viewers. And the cost of this drive to "catch em young"? TSB estimates it will spend around £150,000 during this year on promotion.

My barber asked me this one yesterday: "What is two miles long, and eats cabbage?" His answer: "A Polish meat queue".

Ross Davies



FINANCIAL NEWS

Borthwick avoids US risks and slashes loss

By Our Financial Staff

Thomas Borthwick & Sons, the international meat trader, is continuing to improve after the heavy losses of 1979-80. For the full year to last September, the group made a pretax loss of £1.6m following a loss of £1.9m in the first six months of the year, compared with a deficit of £10.5m in the whole of 1979-80.

The heavy trading losses of the previous year were eliminated by the group not taking positions in the American meat market when prices went against it. At the same time interest rates were high.

In the 12 months just ended, Borthwick benefited from having a lower stock position, a fall in working capital, and a drop in borrowings. The net effect reflected a reluctance to take a high degree of risk in the market.

The group also sold off two substantial loss-makers Freshbake Foods and Freezer Plan, which up to the point of disposal made losses of £286,000 and £166,000 respectively. Other operations disposed of during the year were making small profits, and the overall loss for those activities no longer part of Borthwick's came to £425,000.



Mr Richard Wheeler-Bennett, chairman of Thomas Borthwick & Sons.

The group has sorted out its borrowing position with its bankers. A statement said "The board is satisfied that the facilities negotiated will continue to be available and are adequate for the ensuing year. In addition, certain loan facilities for Borthwick-CWS were arranged on a medium-term basis."

The policy of reducing working capital has been pursued and net borrowing has dropped by £13m to £71m by the year end. Finance charges have correspondingly been reduced for the year by £2m to £12.1m. Over the last two years, borrowings have been reduced by nearly £25m or 26 per cent.

Mr Richard Wheeler-Bennett, chairman, pointed out that the appointment of Mr Dennis Carey as group chief executive was a key part of the extensive reorganization of management during the year, and the review of strategy which is currently under way.

Trafalgar House pleases with £55m

By Paul Maidment

Trafalgar House's 12 per cent increase in pretax profits to £55m for the year to September 30 was much in line with market expectations and the share price edged up by ½p to 101½p. The property side's contribution to group profits dipped to £23.7m from £24.5m, reflecting a number of completions.

The contracting and civil engineering side boosted its contribution to a healthy £31.9m, against £23.6m the previous year, although that included losses on four road contracts. After a dismal first half, the shipping, aviation and hotels division ended up contributing £10.4m, against £17.3m, with the shipping side selling off four loss-making fruit carriers.

However, popular attention will focus on the group's newspaper and magazine interests, the Express group of newspapers and the Morgan-Grampian trade journals. After making £6.1m at the half-way stage these contributed only £6.8m to the full year's figures, against £4.2m previously.

Trafalgar does not break down this division, but it seems that Morgan-Grampian improved a little, despite the recession hitting advertising, particularly of jobs, and that the *Sunday Express* did a little better as well and the *Daily Star* a little less worse.

Inchcape subsidiary sells Malay motor plant

By Drew Johnstone

Increasing nationalist pressure in the Far East has forced the Singapore-based subsidiary of international trading group Inchcape to sell off its Malaysian motor assembly plant.

Inchcape Behad, which is 63.5 per cent owned by Inchcape in the United Kingdom has parted with half its Malaysian business to Sejati Motors, a subsidiary of United Motor Works (Malaysia) for £31m.

Part of the reason given for the disposal is that Toyota, whose products were assembled by Inchcape, prefers that its franchise is operated by nationals of the country concerned.

But Malaysia's economic policy of "bumiputra"—giving native Malays a minimum 30 per cent equity stake in all Malaysian business operations—has also placed pressure on Inchcape to sell.

Inchcape now intends to use the £8m gain on the sale to develop the remaining 50 per cent of its interests in the country, which consists mainly of property.

A spokesman for the company said yesterday that it would now introduce the bumiputra policy in the balance of its operation. But pressures from the radical wing of the ruling political party, the Malay United Front, may soon legislate for a minimum native Malay involvement of 51 per

Asian analysts believe there is a strong possibility that legislation of this kind may be passed and say they find this worrying.

The sale does not, however, affect Inchcape's other interests in the region and has not so far led to changes in the company's relationship with Toyota in Singapore and Brunei.

Hanson scents a win in fight for Berec

By Philip Robinson

Sir James Hanson seemed confident last night that his Hanson Trust's new 150p-a-share cash offer for Ever Ready battery group, Berec, would get board approval.

After nearly three months of publicly criticizing the Berec board's performance record—he has described it as abysmal Sir James posted his new offer document to shareholders and said: "The Berec board has not had time to consider their reaction following the friendly meeting I had last Friday with the chairman Mr Stapleton. We hope they will now recommend the offer to their shareholders."

City suggestions last night indicated that Sir James has now put the Berec board on the spot. It has already recommended an offer which is courted from Thomas Tilling which at last night's price of 144p is worth £95m. Tilling is offering a one-for-one share swop. Now it must decide whether to support the white-knight or change sides and go along with one of its most ardent critics, Sir James, unless Tilling can be persuaded to pay more.

At present, Berec is saying nothing but recommending shareholders to take no action while it makes up its mind. Tilling will know tomorrow just how many shareholders have accepted its offer.

A spokesman for Berec's advisers, merchant bankers S. G. Warburg said last night: "There has been contact between us and Thomas Tilling. They have asked one or two questions."

It is unlikely that the Berec board will give any further advice until Tilling has disclosed its acceptance level.

Sir James—not acknowledged as paying generous sums for acquisitions—appears anxious that his near-£100m bid for Berec should go through.

He now speaks for 21.5 per cent of the group, the bulk of which was bought in a £9m dawn raid earlier this year, but was topped up when he increased his initial 110p offer.

It is understood that one of the anxieties of the Berec board is hat would be their roles in the running of the company, if Hanson took over.

Philips' Lamps expects little change in profit

Philips' Lamps, the giant Dutch electrical and electronic products manufacturers, expects its net profits for 1981 not to differ greatly from 1980's, while sales will expand in volume by about 4 per cent.

In announcing an unchanged interim dividend of 0.6 fl a share, the board reported that "the development of the course of business in the first nine months of the year was not unsatisfactory in the light of the adverse economic situation".

The company further announced that its general shareholders' meeting had appointed Dr W. Dekker, vice-president of Philips, as president of the company and board chairman as from January 1, 1982. He will succeed Dr Rodenburg, who will retire on December 31, 1981.

City Offices in Greycoat talks

Less than three weeks after the directors of City Offices rejected a £36.4m bid from the smaller but fast growing Greycoat Estates worth 170p a share, the directors, headed by Mr Geoffrey North, now say that talks with Greycoat are going on.

City Offices has commissioned a revaluaton of propertes which should be finished soon. The board and S. G. Warburg, its advisers, urge all shareholders to do nothing.

Ward & Goldstone ahead

Ward & Goldstone, the maker of electrical accessories and cables is benefitting from a big saving in interest charges; and since the end of the six months to last September business has picked up modestly. But in the six months turnover actually fell from £39.8m to £36.8m, while operating profits slipped £63,000 to £2.04m. Only a £670,000 drop to £647,000 in interest payable left pretax profits £610,000 up at £1.39m, hoisting earnings a share from 5.13p to 9.18p against 12.45p for last year as a whole. The interim dividend edged forward from 1.29p gross to 1.43p. Last year the final dividend was 6.43p.

The group reports that all divisions, save the one serving cars, are working full time. Capital spending is still high, but the cut in bank borrowings should be sustained. A new factory should start running next January, and another is being commissioned.

Ward has shed one third of its workforce in two years, cut back the automotive division, and lowered production costs. It has also launched new lines. The shares rested at 112p yesterday; they have already come up from 69p this year partly on bid possibilities.

Real ale brewer up 13pc to £10m

Against the apparent trend in the brewing industry, Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, which trades as Bank's and Hansons in the West Midlands, has recorded a 16 per cent increase in sales and a 13 per cent increase in pretax profits to £10.2m.

Turnover for the year to September 30 was £73.54m.

Mr Robert Houle the finance director, said yesterday that the company, which produces only real ale, had held its sales volume despite the extent of unemployment and short-term working in the region. A rise in prices to bring them into line with the competition about a year ago was a factor. "But we would not have raised the prices unless we had to," he said.

John Williams

After a first-half loss, John Williams of Cardiff was still in the red in the second six months of the year to September 30 last—with the year's result being a pretax deficit of £1.26m, compared with a pretax profit of £666,000 in the preceding year.

Turnover shrank from £25.18m to £19.61m. The final dividend, gross, is being cut from 2.5p to 0.71p a share, reducing the total from 4.07p to 1.42p.

Alpine Soft Drinks

Failure to break into the highly-competitive mail order business has forced Birmingham-based Alpine Soft Drinks to concentrate on new products within the soft drinks market. But by doing so the company has improved trading performance by 13 per cent for the half year to September 26, with pretax profits up to £1.29m from £1.14m. Turnover also rose from £8.5m to £9.6m despite what the company describes as adverse conditions such as high levels of unemployment, in many of its traditional market areas.

A half-year dividend of 1.72p (gross) has been declared.

NSS Newsagents

On sales up from £97.47m to £117.77m, NSS Newsagents' pretax profits expanded from £4.58m to £4.92m in the year to September 27, 1981. Diluted earnings per ordinary share rose from 16.7p to 16.9p and the total gross dividend is being boosted from 4.85p to 5.35p.

In the first eight weeks of the current year, a further seven retail shops have been acquired or opened. Group sales are up by 22 per cent over the similar period of last year.

Marling Industries

A recovery is under way at Marling Industries, makers of industrial textiles, which saw its results fall heavily in 1980-81. For the half-year to September 30, 1981, sales rose only from £10.12m to £10.63m. but pretax profits jumped from £205,000 to £737,000. Lifting the interim payment, gross, from 0.6p to 0.67p a share, the board reports that the improvement is continuing.

'Bristol Evening Post'

The Bristol Evening Post Ltd. made a pretax profit of £949,000 in the half-year to September 30, 1981, compared with a pretax loss of £17,000 in the similar period of the preceding year. Turnover was up from £12.68m to £15.59m. The interim payment, gross, is being raised from 4.64p to 5.71p a share.

Stothert & Pitt

After losing £2.26m before tax in the year to last June, Stothert & Pitt, in contractors' plan, cranes and general engineering, expects to return to "modest" profits by the end of this fancial year. Mr Ralph Bateman, chairman, also tells shareholders that the sale of surplus assets will lead to a vut in borrowings.

Gold mine dividends sharply cut

International

Dividends of gold mines in the South Africa group have been sharply cut in the wake of the lower gold price, according to recent dividend announcements.

Driefontein Consolidated will pay an interim dividend of 100 cents. This is not comparable with any previous period since the company was formed this year. At least one Johannesburg stockbroker expected a payment of 120 cents.

Kloof's interim dividend has been reduced to 120 cents, from 160 cents last year. Venterspost's payment has been cut from 100 cents to 35 cents, Libanon's is down from 130 cents to 80 cents and Doornfontein's from 135 cents to 80 cents.

East Rand Proprietary Mines, administered by Rand Mines, said earlier that it was passing its final dividend, giving a total for 1981 of 50 cents, against last year's 370 cents.

Inco gets out of batteries

Inco yesterday approved a plan to withdraw from the battery and related products businesses of its wholly-owned subsidiary, Inco Electro-Energy Corporation. This will result in a charge against fourth quarter 1981 results, and valuation studies have started to determine the amount of the writedown.

The company stated that the decision was taken to concentrate its financial and management resources on its natural resource and alloy products businesses in accordance with the company's basic long-term strategy.

This decision to withdraw from the battery business, and the company's previously announced action to mothball its Guatemalan facilities, are expected to contribute significantly to its financial strength.

It is intended that this will occur through use of proceeds from divestitures to reduce debt and, in the longer term, through direction of Inco's financial resources to its more attractive natural resource and alloy products businesses.

Cliff Oil

Cluff Oil says that its American subsidiary Cluff Oil Incorporated, has taken part in an oil discovery in Texas at Floyd Craig No. 1, Blackwell Prospect, Nolan County.

The well flowed oil on an eight-hour test at the rate of 186 barrels of oil per day on a 16/64 inch choke. Cluff Oil's interest in this discovery is 10 per cent.

Deutsche Bank's earnings

Herr F. Wilhelm Christians, joint management spokesman of Deutsche Bank AG, said yesterday that full 1981 earnings will be satisfactory and may show an increase on 1980, but the complete picture remains unclear because of the need to make substantial provisions against risks.

He would not comment directly on dividend payment for 1981, but told a press conference in Dusseldorf that a cut in the level paid for 1980 has not been discussed within the bank.

Deutsche Bank made a ten Deutschemark dividend on 1980 results, which showed a consolidated group net profit of DM457.17m and parent bank net profit of DM343m.

Eurodollar fall

Eurodollar bond prices declined by a further 0.50-0.75 points in slow trading yesterday morning. A dealer said the quantity of issues on offer was choking the limited demand. "Investors are being very selective and they can pick the levels at which they want to buy", he commented. And a trader suggested that a little short-covering was pushing the occasional issue back up about 0.25 point.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Elliott Group gets back in the black

By Philip Robinson

Elliott Group of Peterborough, which is fighting a takeover bid from loss-making Jenks & Cattell, is back in the black and has resumed paying a half-time dividend.

Pretax profits for the half year to the end of September 30, were £144,000 against a loss last time of £188,000. Turnover of the portable buildings, furniture and joinery group fell from £9.6m to £8m.

The group is paying a gross 0.714p dividend, double what it paid for all of last year and says that trading continues to show a recovery.

But the shares hardly moved on the news. At 42p they are still some way below the Jenks' one-for-one offer which at last night's closing price of 58p values Elliott at £7.5m. There is a 39½p a share cash alternative.

So far, the Elliott board has made no formal comment on Jenks' latest offer — raised from its original £6.85m value following Takeover Panel intervention — but says its formal defence document should be out next week. A meeting between the two groups' advisers is planned this week to clarify certain points.

Mr Michael Reeve, an Elliott director, said they want to know why there is no offer for the £25,000 worth of preference shares, and what the cash alternative would mean for the combined group's gearing.

By selling surplus properties over the past 12 months, Elliott says its borrowings — and with it the interest charge — have come down from £4.6m to £1.27m. It still had properties to sell with a book value of £1.5m.

Business appointments

Barclays Bank names a new general manager

Mr Gordon Adam will be taking up a new general manager post in Barclays Bank on March 1, with responsibility for finance and planning. He will remain a director of Barclays Bank UK and Barclays Bank Trust Company. *Mr Robin Hoyer Millar*, a regional general manager of Barclays Bank UK, will succeed Mr Adam as executive deputy chairman of Barclays Bank Trust Company. Mr Hoyer Millar will also become a director of the Trust Company, on January 1.

Mr Michael Jones, formerly insurance manager of British Aerospace (Aircraft Group) has been made a divisional director of the Aviation Division.

Mr D. A. Beety has become a non-executive director of Devitt (Aviation), part of the Devitt Group.

Mr W. J. Hall will be joining the board of J. W. Spear & Sons as financial director on January 1 and Mr N. J. Stone will become company secretary in succession to Mr J. W. B. Estall.

Mr J. D. Spink has been named deputy chairman of both John Swire & Sons (H.K.) and Swire Pacific.

Mr J. C. Barclay, chairman of Cater Allen and vice chairman of Cater Allen Holdings has been made a director of Allen Harvey & Ross Investment Management and a director of Allen Harvey & Ross Unit Trust Managers.

Mr J. M. Menzies and Mr C. M. Beddow are now directors of Gordon & Gotch Holdings.

Ms Carol Trevellick has become administration director for Eagle International.

The Honourable Alexander Gordon Catto, Mr Lee Oi Hian and Mr Allister P. McLeish have gone on the board of Yule Catto & Co. Sir Campbell Adamson will retire from the company on December 31.

Mr M. D. Williams has been appointed by Telephone Rentals as general manager of its new wholly-owned subsidiary company, TR Time Services.

67 pc rise in pretax profits for C & W

By Drew Johnston

Cable & Wireless, whose shares got off to a spectacular start when they were floated on the stock exchange in October, has realised a 67 per cent increase in pretax profits, Mr Eric Sharp, chairman, announced yesterday. They rose from £27.2m to £45.6m in the half year to September 30 with turnover also up from £126.8m to £178.3m. The result, the chairman said of improved margins on increased volumes of business.

This increase was the result of greater traffic on the company's share of Bahrain and Hongkong telephone communications cables, largely because of greater worldwide introduction of subscriber trunk dialling systems.

Other significant factors in the vastly improved performance were the investment interest received from sale of assets overseas and beneficial currency movements.

All Cable & Wireless's business is conducted overseas and the company has previously suffered from the adverse movements in sterling up until this year.

Barring unforeseen circumstances, the company expects that pretax profit for the year will at least equal the £84m profit forecast in the offer for sale document.

IC Gas climbs 17pc

Margareta Pagano

Imperial Continental Gas has managed a 17 per cent increase in pretax profits to £1.1m, but stresses as always that half-time figures give no indication of the year's trend.

On top of the seasonal nature of its power and fuel interests, the results from UNERG, its utility business, and dividend income from Petrofina and Intercom, does not come through until the more buoyant second half.

In the six months to September, there is a £2.2m increase at the pretax level excluding last time's £2.9m exceptional profit from the sale of property and lower interest charges from the Marreen oil field.

But, at the trading level, profits have slipped to £13m against £13.6m and were further reduced by higher depreciation costs of £10m against £9.7m. Turnover rose by £2.9m to £172m.

Mr Fred Zollinger, chairman, however, believes there are enough signs to face the full year with confidence. Last year the group made pretax profits of £33.2m, a fall of 13 per cent.

Calor Gas, the country's largest liquid petroleum gas supplier, improved trading profits by £2.4m despite a decline in gas tonnage and appliance sales.

There are no marked increases in new sales showing in present trading, but the group believes there are further benefits to come from higher margins and cost savings from last year's reorganization.

CompAir was able to break even in the period, with trading profit virtuallly unchanged at £8m. Higher sales overseas offset a 21 per cent drop in the UK market, but the division is expected to make better contributions in the second half.

A downturn in trading by the group's oil interests in the North Sea and its Belgian *companies has been offset* by the increases in both Calor and CompAir.

The group's shares rose 2p to 188p, helped by the lift in the half-time dividend from 3.8p to 5.5p.

Matthew Brown's £5m cash call

By Paul Maidment

North-western brewer Matthew Brown announced yeterday that it had pumped up its full-year profits by 25 per cent, and, along with a warning about the need to increase its share of a shrinking beer market, said it was making a £4.65m rights issue to help fund expansion.

Pretax profits for the 53 weeks to October 3 were £5.04m, against £4.05m the previous year, on sales 20.75 per cent higher at £30.9m. Stripping out £522,000 for profits on the sale of properties and investments, against £72,000 a year earlier, profits were 13.7 per cent higher.

Mr Patrick Townsend, the chairman, said the volume of the company's beer sales, on which it is heavily dependent, had fallen by 2.5 per cent. Nationally, beer sales have reduced by twice as much, which encourages him to think that Matthew Hall is increasing its market share.

With no visible sign of an upturn in the economy to boost drinkers' spending power, Mr Townsend says the company's performance depends on its ability to improve its market share. During the past year, it added four tied public houses outside its traditional distribution areas in Lancashire and Cumbria, and says it is actively looking for more such acquisitions.

Mr Townsend said that the rights issue, which will be on the basis of one-for-five at 142p, would in part fund this expansion and in part fund existing commitments for the further modernization of the companies' breweries, particularly in Blackburn.

Matthew Brown is raising its final dividend to 7.143p gross, making 9.071p for the year, against 8.121p a year earlier. The shares fell 8p to 166p.

Indonesia buys 17pc of LOF

By Peter Wainwright

Mr Fayzol Hashim, an Indonesian businessman has emerged as the holder of 17.23 per cent of London & Overseas Freighters, the bulk carrier and tanker operator largely in the spot market.

Under Takover Panel rules, the buyer can now proceed to accumulate in the market a further 4.9 per cent week by week until it gets to 30 per cent, when a full bid becomes mandatory.

Market reports page 19

The Panel is satified that there has been no infringement of the rules. However, the last LOF accounts indicated no shareholder with more than 5 per cent of the shares, the figure at which disclosure is compulsory. The implication is that the associates kept their accumulations at under 5 per cent.

Bone Fitzgerald, the stockbroker, which changed its name from Sandelson some time ago, and which has long had Far East connexions said yesterday: "There are no plans to buy more shares at the moment."

Yasterday morning Mr Manuel Kulukundis, chairman of LOF, said he had no idea who was behind the share buying. Later he added that he had never heard of Mr Hashim.

LOF had had no bid approaches in recent months.

Linfood counts cost of bid battle

By Philip Robinson

Fighting off Mr James Gulliver's £91m takover bid has cost the supermarket to cash-and-carry food group, Linfood Holdings £338,000.

The figure virtaually halves the percentage increase in profits for shareholders and after lifting the half-time dividend by 42.8 per cent to 7.1428p, gross the earnings carried to reserves dropped from £2.15m to £1.7m.

Above the line, pretax profits rose more than a fifth to £5.5m on a turnover up 11m to £548m. The results were forecast in the group's defence document against the Argyll Foods takeover and the shares closed unchanged at 157p after touching 159p at one stage.

Linfood chairman, Mr Alec Monk, says that cash-and-carry sales increased slightly. The increase in profits stemmed principally from an general improvement and a strong performance from the Dee Discount Stores.

With the results, the group has announced new board appointments. The most significant is Mr Kevin O'Keefe, currently company secretary and secretary to the executive committee of Booker McConnell. He is joined by Professor C. Stapleton, professor of Finance and Dean of Manchester Business School and Mr B. Baker currently marketing director of Glaxo in the UK.

Stock Exchange Prices

Equities tumble

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 7. Dealings End, Dec 22. § Contango Day, Dec 23. Settlement Day, Jan 4

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

BRITISH FUNDS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS						
99 11/32	88	Treas 8¼% 1980-82	99 11/32	..	8.556	14.938
99⅝	91¼	Treas 3% 1982	97⅝	..	3.065	14.325
102⅝	90½	Treas 14% 1982	99⅞	..	14.016	14.244
96⅞	85⅝	Treas 8¼% 1982	98⅞	• ..	8.515	14.303
96¼	85¾	Exch 8¾% 1982	96⅜	..	9.822	14.577
95½	84⅛	Exch 8¾% 1983	95¼	•−¼	9.174	13.540
92	79½	Exch 3% 1983	90¼	..	3.324	11.900
98 7/16	85⅞	Treas 12% 1983	97⅛	−⅛	12.353	14.535
94⅜	84⅜	Treas 9½% 1983	94¼	−¼	9.812	13.327
102⅞	94¼	Exch 13¼% 1983	96⅝	−⅛	13.699	14.329
94 11/16	84⅜	Exch 10% 1983	93¾	• ..	10.667	13.866
86	76⅜	Fund 5½% 1982-84	86½	..	6.358	13.035
97 7/16	86⅞	Exch 11¼% 1984	93⅞	+¼	11.984	14.558
104 3/16	94½	Exch 14% 1984	98⅝	−¼	14.195	14.693
82¼	68¾	Exch 3% 1984	81¼	•+¼	3.698	11.848
99⅝	88	Treas 12% 1984	98⅝	−⅛	12.813	14.838
109¼	95⅞	Treas 15% 1985	99¼	−¼	15.112	15.253
98⅞	88⅜	Exch Cv 12% 1985	91½	−¼	13.115	15.381
76	68 11/16	Treas 3% 1985	73⅝	−¼	4.073	12.668
96 3/16	85⅞	Treas 11½% 1985	88⅝	−¼	12.974	15.258
103¼	87⅛	Exch 12¼% 1985	91⅛	−⅛	13.408	15.228
97⅛	84⅞	Exch 11¾% 1986	88 7/16	−¼	13.284	15.558
69 11/16	65¾	Treas 3% 1986	69⅜	−¼	4.324	12.110
97⅞	84⅜	Treas 12% 1986	89¼	•−⅛	13.444	15.387
MEDIUMS						
89⅞	78⅞	Treas 8½% 1984-86	82⅝	•−¼	10.351	13.915
105⅞	90⅜	Exch 13½% 1987	97⅞	−½	14.858	15.442
81⅜	70¼	Fund 6½% 1985-87	75	−½	8.741	13.332
99⅜	81½	Treas 12% 1987	86⅞	−⅜	13.997	15.803
83	71⅜	Treas 7¾% 1985-88	77¼	−½	10.439	14.154
65¾	54⅞	Trans 3% 1978-88	61⅜	•−½	4.873	11.503
98	78½	Treas 11½% 1989	84⅝	−¾	14.160	15.951
68¼	57¾	Treas 5% 1986-89	63⅞	−½	7.921	12.503
104¼	88½	Treas 13% 1990	93¼	−¾	14.732	15.589
95⅞	81½	Exch 12½% 1990	86⅝	−¾	14.839	16.001
82	69½	Treas 8¼% 1987-90	71⅝	•−½	11.498	14.034
96¼	79½	Treas 11¾% 1991	79½	•−¾	14.583	15.876
68	57	Fund 5¾% 1987-91	60⅞	−½	9.605	13.421
92¼	72¾	Exch 11% 1991	78¼	−½	14.325	15.690
102⅝	83¾	Treas 12¾% 1992	89¼	−¾	15.019	15.764
86¼	70¾	Treas 10% 1992	75⅝	−½	13.788	15.379
100½	79	Exch 12¼% 1992	85¼	−¾	14.987	15.825
104¼	84¼	Exch 13½% 1992	90½	−¾	15.402	15.925
100⅝	81¾	Treas 12½% 1993	83¼	• ..	14.966	15.637
66⅞	53¾	Fund 6% 1993	57½	−¾	10.683	13.566
107⅞	83⅞	Treas 13¾% 1993	89¼	−¾	15.420	15.796
115	90¼	Treas 14½% 1994	96⅝	−¾	15.632	15.858
104¼	82¾	Exch 13½% 1994	88½	−¾	15.526	15.942
100⅝	79⅝	Exch 12½% 1994	85⅝	−¾	15.252	15.820
81¼	63¾	Treas 9% 1994	68¼	−½	13.288	14.622
102⅝	77¼	Treas 12% 1995	85⅝	−¾	15.161	15.796
51½	42	Gas 3% 1990-95	44	−¼	6.867	11.228
86⅝	69½	Exch 10¼% 1995	75	−½	14.425	15.384
100	79⅜	Treas 12¾% 1995	84⅜	−¾	15.186	15.614
109¼	88½	Treas 14% 1996	94¼	−¾	15.658	15.879
81⅜	63⅝	Treas 9% 1992-96	68½	−½	13.551	14.678
118¼	91⅝	Treas 15¼% 1996	98¼	−¾	15.765	15.621
106	82	Exch 13¼% 1996	87¼	−¾	15.246	15.553

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) December 8	Market rates (close) December 8		1 month	3 months
New York	$1.9170-9460	$1.9265-9275	New York	0.47-0.37c prem	1.07-0.97c prem
Montreal	$2.2990-3010	$2.2795-2805	Montreal	0.40-0.50c disc	0.90-1.10c disc
Amsterdam	4.72-77fl	4.73-74fl	Amsterdam	1⅛-1⅝c prem	4⅛-3⅞c prem
Brussels	73.60-74.40f	73.70-80f	Brussels	18-28c disc	67-77c disc
Copenhagen	13.98-14.10k	13.97-98k	Copenhagen	par-100ore disc	30-170ore disc
Dublin	1.2170-2290p	1.2195-2205p	Dublin	32-44p disc	104-124p disc
Frankfurt	4.32-36m	4.33-34m	Frankfurt	1⅜-1¼pf prem	4½-4¼pf prem
Lisbon	123.50-125.50e	124.05-35e	Lisbon	25-190c disc	65-405c disc
Madrid	185.00-186.75p	185.30-60p	Madrid	15-41c disc	75-120c disc
Milan	2313-31lr	2314½-16½lr	Milan	19-22lr disc	50-54lr disc
Oslo	11.01-13k	11.03½-04½k	Oslo	810-990ore disc	620-800ore disc
Paris	10.91½-11.00f	10.93½-94½f	Paris	1-2c disc	5½-6½c disc
Stockholm	10.58-67k	10.62-63k	Stockholm	175-105ore prem	535-460ore prem
Tokyo	417-24y	419-20y	Tokyo	3.16-2.85y prem	8.36-8.07y prem
Vienna	30.30-60sch	30.40-45sch	Vienna	16-11gro prem	38-28gro prem
Zurich	3.50-53½f	3.51¼-52¼f	Zurich	1¾-1⅝c prem	4-3⅞c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was down 0.2 at 91.7.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14½%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 14½ Low 13¼

Week Fixed: 14⅛

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	14 5/32	2 months	14 1/32
3 months	13⅞	3 months	13¾

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	14 7/16-14 11/32	1 month	15⅛
2 months	14 5/16-14 9/32	2 months	14⅞
3 months	14 5/32-14 1/32	3 months	14¾
6 months	13⅝-13½	6 months	14¼

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15⅛-14⅞	7 months	14½-13⅞
2 months	15-14¾	8 months	14¼-13⅞
3 months	14⅞-14⅝	9 months	14½-14¼
4 months	14⅝-14½	10 months	14½-14¼
5 months	14½-14¼	11 months	14½-14¼
6 months	14⅛-13⅞	12 months	14⅝-14⅜

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	14⅝-14¼	6 months	14⅝-14½
3 months	14⅞-14¾	12 months	14 9/16-14 7/16

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14⅝-14½	3 months	14⅞
7 days	14¾-14⅝	6 months	14½
1 month	14⅞	1 year	14⅜

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 14⅞-14¾ Close 13

1 week	14⅝-14¼	6 months	14⅜-14⅛
1 month	14⅞-14¾	9 months	14 11/16-14 9/16
3 months	14⅝-14½	12 months	14⅝-14½

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Base%)

3 months 15⅛ 6 months 15¼

Finance House Base Rate 16%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6930-1.7080
Bahrein	0.7200-0.7330
Finland	8.3970-8.4370
Greece	108.05-110.05
Hongkong	10.7915-10.8315
Iran	Not available
Kuwait	0.5425-0.5450
Malaysia	4.3375-4.3675
Mexico	49.55-51.05
New Zealand	2.3100-2.3300
Saudi Arabia	6.6215-6.6515
Singapore	3.9570-3.9670
South Africa	1.8810-1.8960

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.5750-1.5780
† Canada	1.1852-1.1855
Netherlands	2.4570-2.4600
Belgium	38.20-38.25
Denmark	7.2650-7.2680
West Germany	2.2445-2.2468
Portugal	64.40-65.00
Spain	96.45-96.55
Italy	1201.50-1202.50
Norway	5.7320-5.7370
France	5.6610-5.6680
Sweden	5.5150-5.5180
Japan	217.60-217.75
Austria	15.78-15.82
Switzerland	1.8225-1.8245

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8443-0.8445

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 11⅞-12⅛; seven days, 11⅞-12; one month, 11 15/16-12⅛c; three months, 12 5/16-12⅝c; six months, 12⅞-13⅛.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $417.25 (an ounce); pm, $415.75 close, $418.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $428-430 (£221.75-222.75).
Sovereigns (new): $102-103 (£52.80-53.30).

MISCELLANEOUS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
48	25	Calcutta Elec	38		9.1	24.0	..
34½	28½	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£31	• ..	500	16.1	..
23	17	Gt Nthn Tele	£33	..	150	4.5	12.4
353	150	Imp Cont Gas	188	+2	11.4	6.1	11.9
185	93	Milford Docks	113	+3	0.7	0.6	..
193	88	Nesco Inv	130	..	10.0	7.7	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£31	..	500	16.1	..

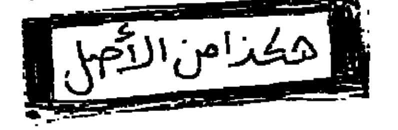
• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
A and G Sec Elect 5p Ord (80a)	81
Acals Jewellery 10p Ord (70a)	72
Asprey 25p Ord (a)	850
Brooke Bond Liebig 5¾% Db 87-92	£63
Cable and Wireless 50p Ord (168)	198−4
City Site 25p Ord (35a)	34
E. Worcester Wtr 10½% Rd Pf 1986 (+)	£109
Equipu 10p Ord (80a)	83
Exchequer 14% 1986 (g)	£29¾−½
Esco International 10p Ord (140)	173
Feedback Group 10p Ord (90a)	106
Greenwich Cable 25p Ord (50a)	41
Hayters £1 Ord (150a)	160
Humberside Electronic Controls 10p Ord (10½a)	18
Johnstone's Paints 10p Ord (63a)	75
Moray Firth Exp	100
Nimslo Int $0.20 Ord ($4.25a)	145
Saxon Oil 50p Ord (12½p paid)	79−2
Sheldon Jones 25p Ord (67a)	70
Television South 10p Ord NV (ak)	32
Do 14/20% 1968-88 Ln (ak)	£89
V.W. 25p Ord (62a)	83

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Gt Portland Est (162‡)		20 prem
Raglan Prop Tst (7½‡)	Jan 15	1½ prem
Strong and Fisher (50‡)	Jan 21	½ prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a unlisted securities market. b. £10 paid. f fully paid. g £40 paid. h £50 paid. j £30 paid. j £25 paid. k Issued in units of sixteen shares and £5 nominal loan stock at £9 per unit.



MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Heavy selling as Index closes 11.8 points down

Yesterday's freezing conditions brought a shiver to the market as prices tumbled, thereby reversing Monday's promising start to the new account.

Dealers appeared surprised by the overnight change in sentiment, but apart from the weather, were unable to find any reasonable excuse. Wall Street's overnight weakness was an obvious contributory factor, and there appeared to be a certain amount of nervousness ahead of the money supply figures for October. But nothing to warrant the heavy selling which prevailed.

Equities opened cautiously and continued to drift throughout the morning, with gilts making another nervous opening following renewed weakness on the United States market.

So once again, it was left to bid situations and the long list of companies reporting to make the running.

An early bright spot was *the dawn raid on London* Overseas Freighters by brokers, Bone Fitzgerald, the Far East specialists. They picked up 6.9m shares of 17/23 per ment of the company at 50p a share on behalf of Leane Investment a Panamanian company, dealing for Mr Ryzol Hashim, an Indonesian businessman.

Full-year figures from Bass were better than expected and the first set of half-year figures from Cable & Wireless since going public last month were well received. But with a big bull market already established in the shares, Bass slipped 2p to 210p, along with C & W 4p lighter at 198p.

Influenced by another easier opening on Wall St, the *FT* Index closed at its low point for the day, 11.8 down at 521.7.

Gilts remained in the doldrums, with prices opening lower in thin trade ahead of the money supply figures. These proved to be in line with most expectations, so prices recovered £¼ to close off the bottom. In longs, the deficit was held at £⅛, while in shorts the losses were restricted to £¼.

The gilts market is still looking for another fall in domestic interest rates for its next rally and until then appears content to take its lead from the US bond market.

Blue chips drifted steadily throughout the day in thin trade, although jobbers were able to report no real weight of selling. Losses were seen in **ICI 8p to 288p, Beecham 4p** to 214p, **Glaxo** 6p to 416p, **Unilever 10p to 603p, Fisons** 7p to 136p, **Blue Circle** 6p to 482p, **Bowater** 6p to 206p, **John Brown** 3p to 59p, **Dunlop** 3p to 67p, **GKN** 7p to 164p, **Grand Metropolitan** 8p to 180p, **Hawker Siddeley** 6p to 320p, **Imperial Group** 2½p to 70½p, **Lucas Industries** 4p to 216p, **Tube Investments** 4p to 100p and **Vickers** 5p to 154p. Even **Distillers**, a strong market of late on the *whisky production figures*, encountered profit-taking, losing 9p to 184p.

Computer & Systems Engineering, which was more than thirty times oversubscribed last week, made its debut on the Unlisted Securities Market, opening at 247p over the initial offer price of 225p. However, profit-taking saw it close at 237p — a premium of 12p and well below earlier estimates.

The decision of the Monopolies Commission to refuse the merger of European Ferries's Townsend Thoresen and BR's Sealink came as something of a shock. The price of Euro Ferries reacted 6p to 73p. But **Trafalgar House**, mentioned as a possible bidder, hardened 1½p to 101½p following the £6m increase in profits.

News of a £4.6m rights issue wiped 8p from the brewer **Matthew Brown** at 166p, with **Inchcape** dipping 16p to 283p after losing its lucrative Far Eastern Toyota car franchise.

House of Fraser rallied 4p to 159p after recent weakness, which saw the price tumble from a high of 183p, as it braced itself for the findings of the Monopolies *Commission into the proposed bid by Lonrho*. The market was encouraged by suggestions that Lonrho would not give up without a fight.

But the market was less than pleased with the loss from **John Williams** down 2p at 16p, disappointing news from **Coalite**, 4p off at 107p and **Birmingham Mint** a similar amount cheaper at 183p.

Equity turnover on December 7, was £113.083m (14,502 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exhange Telegraph, were: Euro Ferries, House of Fraser, Meekathara, Inchcape, Int Timber, Geo Bassett and Ward & Goldstone. **Traded Options:** Total contracts amounted to only 844 of which Imperial Group attracted 119 calls. **Traditional options** saw calls in Gripperrods on 14p, House of Fraser on 16p, and Daejan on 17p. A double was completed in Premier on 10p.

Marley fell 1½p to 41½p yesterday with around 1.7m shares over-hanging the market ahead of next week's full-year figures. These are expected to make gloomy reading after profits at the half way stage plunged from £10.4m to £5.1m. The shares could still be doing the rounds today.

Brokers Greenwell remains a loyal supporter of Courtaulds following the recent recovery in profits from £2m to £20m. Just to emphasise the point they had a few more institutions in for drinks last night as the price of Courtaulds slipped 1p to 75p.

Wall Street

New York, Dec 8. — The stock market closed broadly lower as investors remained concerned about the outlook for the economy and interest rates.

The market opened lower and remained weak throughout the day, with the Dow Jones industrial average closing off 5.24 points at 881.75. Declines outpaced advances two to one and volume was about the same as yesterday's 45.7 million shares.

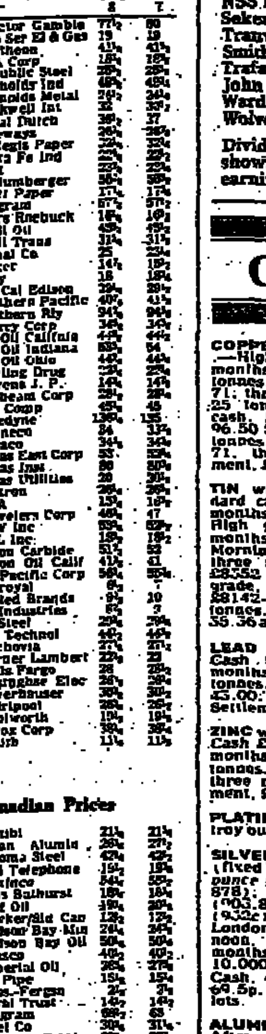
Analysts said the market feared the recession could be deeper and longer than anticipated. "This is an anxious, nervous investment environment", Mr Michael Metz of Oppenheimer and Co said.

Unofficial Administration forecasts that the budget deficit could exceed $100,000m in each of the next three fiscal years have raised concerns about interest rates.

Mr Moate Gordon, of Dreyfus Corporation, said the deficit forecasts "are an acknowledgment on the part of the Administration of what private economists had been forecasting".

	Dec 8	Dec 7
Allied Chem	47	47¼
Allied Stores	25½	26¼
Allis Chalmers	17¼	17¼
Alcoa	26½	26½
Amax Inc	49¼	49
Amerada Hess	26¾	27¼
Am Airlines	13	13¼
Am Brands	37	37¼
Am Broadcast	30¼	30½
Am Can	33¼	33¼
Am Cyanamid	27⅝	27⅝
Am Elec Power	16⅝	16⅝
Am Home	35	35
Am Motors	3⅛	3½
Am Nat Res	43¾	43¾
Am Standard	30½	31
Am Telephone	58	58¼
AMP Inc	28	28¼
Armco Steel	29	29
Asarco	28¾	28¾
Ashland Oil	35¼	36¼
Atlantic Richfield	47½	48
Avco	20¼	19¼
Avon Products	32	32
Bankers Tst NY	34	35
Bank of America	22¼	23¼
Bank of NY	42½	42
Beatrice Foods	18⅝	18⅝
Bendix	57½	57
Bethlehem Steel	23⅛	23
Boeing	23⅛	23⅛
Boise Cascade	37	38½
Borden	28½	28¼
Borg Warner	27½	27½
Bristol Myers	55	54½
BP	25	25¾
Burlington Ind	22½	23
Burlington Nthn	56	55¾
Burroughs	33¾	34
Campbell Soup	27⅝	28½
Canadian Pacific	34½	35¼
Caterpillar	55½	55¾
Celanese	58¾	59¼
Central Soya	12	12¼
Chase Manhat	54¼	54½
Chem Bank NY	54	54¾
Chrysler	3⅜	3¾
Citicorp	26½	26½
Cities Service	49⅝	49½
Clark Equip	26⅝	26⅝
Coca Cola	36¼	36¼
Colgate	16¼	15¼
CBS	46¼	46¼
Columbia Gas	34	34¼
Combustion Eng	37½	37¼
Comwlth Edison	21⅝	22
Cons Edison	22⅝	22½
Cons Foods	32¼	33¾
Cons Power	17¼	17¾
Continental Grp	34¾	35
Control Data	37⅝	37¾
Corning Glass	55⅝	56½
CPC Intnl	33¼	34
Crane	29½	33⅝
Crocker Int	32	32
Crown Zeller	29⅝	30
Dart & Kraft	53¼	53¼
Deere	31¾	30⅝
Delta Air	25¼	26⅝
Detroit Edison	12⅝	12⅝
Disney	50⅛	48⅝
Dow Chemical	26¼	27
Dresser Ind	36⅝	37⅜
Duke Power	21¼	21¼
Du Pont	39¾	40¼
Eastern Air	6⅝	6¼
Eastman Kodak	69⅞	70⅛
Eaton Corp	32	32¼
El Paso Nat Gas	25⅞	25⅞
Equitable Life	[illegible]	[illegible]
Esmark	53½	53½
Evans P. D.	19⅝	19⅝
Exxon Corp	31⅞	32¼
Fed Dept Stores	36½	36⅝
Firestone	11⅝	11⅝
Fst Chicago	19⅞	19¼
Fst Intrst Bncp	37⅝	38⅝

	Dec 8	Dec 7
Fst Nat Boston	46¼	46¼
Fst Penn Corp	3⅞	3⅞
Ford	18⅜	18¼
GAF Corp	15⅛	15⅛
Gen Dynamics	25¼	24⅞
Gen Electric	58⅛	59⅝
Gen Foods	31½	31½
Gen Mills	36⅝	36⅞
Gen Motors	37	37¼
Gen Pub Util NY	6	6
Gen Tel Elec	31¼	31¼
Gen Tire	23¼	24¼
Genesco	6⅞	7⅛
Georgia Pacific	20⅛	22
Getty Oil	65¼	66½
Gillette	32⅝	32⅝
Goodrich	20¼	20¼
Goodyear	18⅞	18⅞
Gould Inc	24¼	24
Grace	45⅛	46¼
Gt Atlte & Pacific	4	4⅛
Greyhound	15⅞	16⅛
Grumman Corp	23⅞	28
Gulf Oil	36⅝	37¼
Gulf & West	17⅛	17⅛
Heinz H. J.	28⅞	28⅞
Hercules	22	21¾
Honeywell	68⅞	69⅞
IC Inds	35¼	35⅝
Ingersoll	56⅝	58⅞
Inland Steel	23⅝	23½
IBM	55⅝	55⅞
Int Harvester	7⅞	8⅛
INCO	14⅛	14⅛
Int Paper	41⅛	41
Int Tel Tel	30⅛	29⅞
Irving Bank	52¼	52
Jewel Co	37¼	37⅝
Jim Walter	19⅛	18⅞
Johnson & John	36⅞	36⅞
Kaiser Alumin	15⅝	15⅞
Kerr McGee	39⅝	39⅞
Kimberly Clark	67	66
K Mart	16	16¼
Kroger	25¼	25
L.T.V. Corp	17⅞	17⅞
Litton	56⅛	56⅞
Lockheed	49⅛	41½
Lucky Stores	13⅞	13⅞
Manuf Hanover	38⅛	38⅞
Manville Cp	14⅛	14⅛
Mapco	33⅛	33⅞
Marathon Oil	101⅞	101⅞
Marine Midland	22⅞	23
Martin Marietta	34⅛	33¾
McDonnell	32⅞	32½
Mead	23⅞	24⅞
Merck	87⅞	86⅞
Minnesota Mng	54⅞	51½
Mobil Oil	25½	25⅞
Monsanto	71½	71⅞
Morgan J. P.	55⅞	56⅞
Motorola	66	66⅞
NCR Corp	40½	40⅞
NL Industries	42	42
Nabisco	30	30⅞
Nat Distillers	23⅛	23⅛
Nat Med Ent	17⅞	17⅞
Nat Steel	24⅛	24⅛
Norfolk West	54⅛	54⅞
NW Bancorp	28	28
Norton Simon	18⅛	18⅞
Occidental Pet	23⅛	24⅞
Ogden	27⅛	27½
Olin Corp	24⅛	24
Owens-Illinois	28⅞	28⅞
Pacific Gas Elec	21⅞	21⅞
Pan Am	3⅛	3⅛
Penney J. C.	27⅛	27⅞
Pennzoil	49⅛	47⅞
Pepsico	36⅛	36⅞
Pfizer	51	51
Phelps Dodge	35⅛	35
Philip Morris	52⅛	52½
Phillips Petrol	42⅛	42½
Polaroid	21⅛	22
PPG Ind	38½	38½



	Dec 8	Dec 7
Proctor Gamble	77½	80
Pub Ser El & Gas	19	19
Raytheon	41⅛	41⅞
RCA Corp	18⅛	18½
Republic Steel	25⅞	25⅞
Reynolds Ind	48⅞	48⅞
Reynolds Metal	24½	24⅛
Rockwell Int	32	32½
Royal Dutch	38½	37
Safeways	26⅛	26⅞
St Regis Paper	32⅛	32⅞
Santa Fe Ind	22⅛	22½
SCM	22⅞	22⅞
Schlumberger	50⅛	50⅞
Scott Paper	17⅞	17⅞
Seagram	51½	51½
Sears Roebuck	16⅛	16½
Shell Oil	45⅛	45½
Shell Trans	31⅛	31⅛
Signal Co	25	23⅞
Singer	14½	15½
Sony	18	18⅛
Sth Cal Edison	29⅞	29⅞
Southern Pacific	40⅞	41⅞
Southern Rly	94⅛	94⅞
Sperry Corp	34⅞	34½
Std Oil Californ	44⅛	44½
Std Oil Indiana	53⅛	54
Std Oil Ohio	44⅞	44⅞
Sterling Drug	22⅛	22⅞
Stevens J. P.	14⅛	14⅞
Sunbeam Corp	28⅛	28⅛
Sun Comp	45⅛	48
Teledyne	136⅛	135
Tenneco	34	33⅞
Texaco	34⅛	34⅛
Texas East Corp	55	55⅛
Texas Inst	80	80⅞
Texas Utilities	20	20⅛
Textron	26⅛	26⅛
TWA	15⅛	16½
Travelers Corp	46⅛	47
TRW Inc	63⅛	62½
UAL Inc	18½	18½
Union Carbide	51⅞	52
Union Oil Calif	41⅛	41
Un Pacific Corp	50⅛	50⅛
Uniroyal	6⅛	[illegible]
United Brands	9⅝	10
US Industries	6⅞	7
US Steel	29⅛	29⅛
Utd Technol	44½	44⅞
Wachovia	27⅛	27½
Warner Lambert	22⅛	23
Wells Fargo	28	28⅛
Westinghse Elec	26⅛	26⅛
Weyerhauser	30⅛	30½
Whirlpool	26⅛	26½
Woolworth	19⅛	19⅛
Xerox Corp	38⅛	38⅛
Zenith	11⅛	11⅛

Canadian Prices

	Dec 8	Dec 7
Abitibi	21¼	21¼
Alcan Alumin	26⅛	27½
Algoma Steel	42⅛	42½
Bell Telephone	19½	19⅛
Cominco	54⅛	55½
Cons Bathurst	18⅛	18⅛
Gulf Oil	19⅛	20⅛
Hawker/Sid Can	12½	12⅛
Hudson Bay Min	21⅛	24⅛
Hudson Bay Oil	50⅛	50⅛
Imasco	40½	40½
Imperial Oil	26⅛	27⅛
Int Pipe	15⅛	15⅛
Mass-Fergsn	2½	3⅛
Royal Trust	14½	14½
Seagram	69½	68
Steel Co	30⅛	31⅛
Thomson N 'A'	22⅛	22⅛
Walker Hiram	24⅛	24⅛
WCT	13⅛	13⅛

* Ex div. a Asked. e Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Archimedes Inv (F)	—(—)	0.13(0.12)	7.92(6.93)	4.3(3.9)	9/2	7.6(6.9)
Bass (F)	1,712(1,262)	133(113.5)	31.4(27.2)	6.93(6.3)	—	9.46(8.6)
M. Brown (F)	30.9(25.6)	5.04(4.05)	18.4(15.33)	5(4.43)	7/1	6.3(5.6)
B'ham Mint (I)	5.62(5.03)	0.21(0.41)	8.6(18.4)	3(3)	18/1	—(10.5)
T. Borthwick (F)	525(589)	1.6a(10.5a)	3.66a(2.12a)	0.01(0.01)	8/2	—(0.01)
Alpine Drinks (I)	9.66(8.52)	1.2(0.93)	5.97(4.99b)	1.2(1.2b)	29/1	—(3.85b)
Bristol Post (I)	15.59(12.68)	0.94(0.017a)	—(—)	4(3.25)	2/2	—(11.0)
Bankers' Inv. (I)	—(—)	1.13(1.2)	—(—)	0.65(0.6)	26/2	—(3.78)
Coalite (I)	163.7(151.5)	7.2(7.35)	—(—)	1.4(1.3)	15/2	—(4.16)
Construction Hldgs. (F)	—(—)	0.19(0.19)	13.3(13.6)	7(7)	16/2	12.6(12.6)
Cray Elect. (I)	9.01(9.8)	0.38(0.34)	1.65(1.49)	0.7(0.6)	9/4	—(2.25)
Elliott Group (I)	8.1(9.6)	0.14(0.18a)	1.08(1.43a)	0.5(—)	12/2	—(0.25)
Cable & Wireless (I)	178.3(126.8)	45.5(27.24)	24.38(16.19)	1.3(—)	31/3	—(—)
I. C. Gas (I)	172(169)	1.1(0.93)	0.14(0.02)	3(2.7)	12/2	—(8.0)
Int. Timber (I)	92.6(99.0)	1.54(1.95)	4.5(6.8)	2(2)	29/1	—(4.0)
M. James (I)	3.89(3.24)	0.24(0.23)	0.9(0.8)	0.5(—)	10/2	—(1.0)
Kean & Scott (I)	0.38(0.39)	0.09a(0.001a)	23.5a(0.38a)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Linfood (I)	548(547)	5.56(4.54)	8.9(8.6)	5(3.5)	26/2	—(10.0)
Marling Inds. (I)	10.6(10.12)	0.73(0.2)	2.73(0.623)	0.47(0.42)	9/2	—(0.94)
M. L. Meyer (I)	155(160)	0.57(3.08)	0.1(3.9)	1.2(1.7)	1/2	—(3.0)
Mitchell Somers (I)	16.2(13.8)	0.85(0.12a)	—(—)	1.5(—)	1/2	—(1.0)
NSS News. (F)	117(97.47)	4.92(4.58)	16.9(16.7)	2.4(2.2)	11/2	3.75(3.4)
Sekers Int. (I)	5.64(5.72)	0.008(0.069a)	1.51(3.77a)	0.2(—)	19/1	—(0.1)
Tranwood (I)	2.94(2.81)	0.085(0.011)	0.33(0.03)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Smith & Nephew(c)	193.9(165.02)	20(16.67)	6.78(6.09)	—(—)	—	—(3.46b)
Trafalgar Hse. (F)	1,190(1,066)	55(49.1)	20.4(12.7)	3.2(2.8)	29/1	6.2(5.35)
John Williams (F)	19.6(25.1)	1.26a(0.66)	15.76a(6.57)	0.5(1.75)	—	1(2.85)
Ward & Goldstone (I)	36.8(39.8)	1.39(0.77)	9.18(5.13)	1(0.9)	19/2	—(5.4)
Wolves Breweries (F)	73.54(63.4)	10.2(9.05)	16.3(17.3)	3.8(3.5)	22/1	5.5(5b)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News, dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. *a* Loss; *b* Adjusted for scrip issue; *c* For 40 weeks to October 10, 1981.

Commodities

COPPER was steady.—Afternoon.—Higher grade cash, £874-75; three months £895-95.50. Sales: 5,375 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £869-71; three months, £890-90.50. Sales: 25 tonnes. Morning.—Higher grade cash, £875-76; three months £896-96.50 Settlement, £876 Sales: 10,100 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £870-71, three months, £890-91 Settlement, £871 Sales 350 tonnes.

TIN was steady.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £8350-55 a tonne; three months £8140-55 Sales, 1,700 tonnes. High grade, cash £8370-71, three months £8140-55 Sales, Nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash £8350-53; three months £8142-45 Settlement, £8352 Sales, 1,160 tonnes: High grade, cash £8360-70; three months, £8142-45 Settlement, £8370 Sales, Nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $M 35.36 a picul.

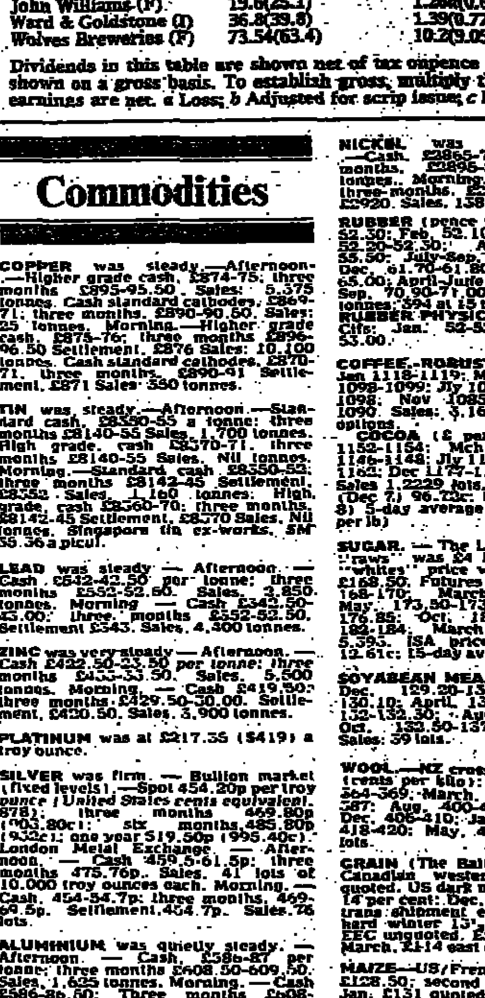
LEAD was steady — Afternoon. — Cash £542-42.50 per tonne; three months £552-52.60. Sales, 3,850 tonnes. Morning — Cash £542.50-43.00; three months £552-52.50. Settlement £543. Sales, 4,300 tonnes.

ZINC was very steady — Afternoon. — *Cash £422.50-23.50 per tonne; three* months £433-33.50. Sales, 5,500 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £419.50; three months £429.50-30.00. Settlement, £420.50. Sales, 3,900 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £217.35 ($419) a troy ounce.

SILVER was firm. — Bullion market (fixed levels).—Spot 454.20p per troy *ounce (United States cents equivalent,* 878); three months 469.80p (903.80c); six months 485.80p (932c); one year 519.50p (995.40c). London Metal Exchange — Afternoon. — Cash 459.5-61.5p; three months 475.76p. Sales, 41 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning. — Cash, 454-54.7p; three months, 469-69.5p. Settlement, 454.7p. Sales 76 lots.

ALUMINIUM was quietly steady. — Afternoon. — Cash, £586-87 per tonne; three months £608.50-609.50. Sales, 1,625 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £586-86.50: Three months £608-608.50. Settlement, £586.50. Sales, 2,650 tonnes.



NICKEL was easier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2865-75 per tonne; three months, £2895-2900. Sales, 264 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2905-20; three-months, £2920-30. Settlement, £2920. Sales, 138 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo).—Jan, 52-52.30; Feb, 52.10-52.30; Jan-March, 52.20-52.30; April-June, 55.40-55.50; July-Sep, 58.50-58.60; Oct-Dec, 61.70-61.80; Jan-Mar, 64.90-65.00; April-June, 67.90-68.00; July-Sep, 70.90-71.00. Sales: 11 at five tonnes; 394 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS.—Spot, 51-52. Cifs: Jan, 52-52.75; Feb, 52.25-53.00.

COFFEE.-ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): Jan 1118-1119; Mch 1107-1108; May 1098-1099; Jly 1097-1098; Sep 1097-1098; Nov 1085-1090; Jan 1075-1090. Sales: 3,163 lots including 74 options.

COCOA (£ per metric ton): Dec 1152-1154; Mch 1141-1143; May 1146-1148; Jly 1154-1155; Sep 1160-1162; Dec 1177-1179; Mch 1180-117. Sales 1,2229 lots. ICCO prices: daily (Dec 7) 96.73c; indicator price (Dec 8) 5-day average 96.43c. (US cents per lb)

SUGAR. — The London daily price of "raws" was £4 higher at £162; the "whites" price was £1.50 higher at £168.50. Futures (£ per tonne): Jan, 168-170; March, 171.50-171.70; May, 173.50-173.60; Aug, 176.75-176.85; Oct, 181.10-181.50; Jan, 182-184; March, 186-189. Sales: 5,395. ISA prices (Dec 7): daily, 12.61c; 15-day average, 12.9c.

SOYABEAN MEAL (£ per tonne). — Dec, 129.20-130.50; Feb, 130-130.10; April, 131.70-132.10; June, 132-132.30; Aug, 132.50-134.50; Oct, 133.50-137; Dec, 135-139. Sales: 39 lots.

WOOL.—NZ crossbreds No 2 contract (cents per kilo): Dec, 359-370; Jan, 364-369; March, 374-377; May, 385-387; Aug, 400-402; Oct, 403-406; Dec, 406-410; Jan, 410-412; March, 418-420; May, 427-430. Sales: 252 lots.

GRAIN (The Baltic). — **WHEAT.** — Canadian western red spring unquoted. US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: Dec, £109; Jan, £115.50 trans shipment east coast seller. US hard winter 13½ per cent unquoted. EEC unquoted. English feed fob: Jan-March, £114 east coast seller.

MAIZE—US/French: first half Dec, £128.50; second half Dec, £129.50; Jan, £131 quoted trans-shipment east coast seller. South Africa yellow, Dec, £85.



BARLEY.—English feed fob: Jan-March, £110.25 east coast. All cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta) EEC origin.—**BARLEY**: Jan £104.05; March £107.10; May £110.05; Sept £101.05; Nov £104.90. Sales: 150 lots. **WHEAT**, Jan £108.10; March £111.35; May £114.45; July £117.25; Sept £105.95; Nov £109.45. Sales: 108 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S EAST	—	£105.50	£102.70
S WEST	—	—	£103.00
W MIDS	—	£104.80	£101.00
N.WEST	£108.30	£105.00	£102.40

Meat Commission: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Dec 8. GB cattle 99.73p per kg lw (x1.66); UK sheep 185.11p per kg est d c w (x6.03); GB pigs 79.68p per kg lw (x0.90). England and Wales: Cattle nos up 8.5 per cent, ave. price 98.28p (x2.03); Sheep nos up 10.6 per cent, ave. price 185.42 (x6.58); Pig nos up 8.3 per cent, ave. price 79.66p (x1.06). Scotland: Cattle nos down 8.7 per cent, ave. price 103.78p (x1.40); Sheep nos up 16.2 per cent, price 184.33p (x4.61); Pig nos up 1.9 per cent, ave. price 79.85p (-0.32).

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE ($ US per tonne): Dec 319.00-20.00; Jan 319.75-20.00; Feb 319.75-20.00; Mar 319.00-19.25; Apr 317.00-17.75; May 315.00-16.00; Jun 314.50-16.25; Jly 316.00-18.00; Aug 316.00-17.00. Sales: 735 lots of 100 tonnes each.

POTATOES (Gafta).—Feb £94; April £107.70; Nov, £68. Sales: 1,057 lots of 40 tonnes each.

EGGS (The London Egg Exchange).—In Home-produced the market is very good with shortages on smaller sizes and prices therefore increasing. Home-produced market prices (in £ per 120, based on trading packer/first-hand):

	Wed/Thur/Fri	Mon/Tues
1's	7.30 to 7.70	7.50 to 7.70
2's	7.20 to 7.40	7.40 to 7.60
3's	6.90 to 7.30	7.10 to 7.50
4's	6.80 to 7.20	7.00 to 7.40
5's	6.50 to 6.80	6.60 to 7.00
6's	5.60 to 5.90	6.00 to 6.70
7's	4.60 to 4.90	4.80 to 5.10

All prices quoted are for bulk delivery in Keyes trays. The above range is a guide to general market conditions and is dependant upon location, quantity and whether delivered or not.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

This table is published on Wednesday and Saturday

1980-81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Authorized Unit Trusts

Abbey Unit Trust Managers. 72-80 Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury, Bucks 0296-5941

Charities Official Investment Fund. 77 London Wall, London, EC2

Chieftain Trust Managers Ltd.

Manulife Management.

McAnally Fund Management Ltd.

Pearl Assurance (Unit Funds) Ltd. 252 High Holborn, WC1V 7EB 01-405 8441

[illegible]

Football

Unflappable Seagulls push high flyers off their perch

By John Nicholls

Southampton 0 Brighton 2

Southampton's chance of going to the top of the First Division for the first time in their history was denied them by a determined and thoroughly professional display by Brighton and Hove Albion at The Dell last night. Instead of establishing a record of one sort, the home side made one of a less desirable kind, that of not scoring at home for the first time this season.

They rarely looked like doing so and the team was hardly recognizable as the one that had played so enterprisingly against Manchester United only three days before. Perhaps that was their trouble, the euphoria of that occasion and the possibility of further success may have affected their concentration.

Seldom have the likes of Keegan, Ball and Williams made so many mistakes and they rarely managed to outwit the unflappable Brighton defence. The visitors were content to control the game from their own half of the pitch, where they always outnumbered the opposition by several players.

Goals by Ritchie and Gatting mid-way through the second half reduced Southampton from looking ragged to disheartened and Brighton coasted through the remainder of the game. At the end of it all it was the visitors who went back along the south coast with a record of their own. Now in sixth place they are the highest placed they have ever been.



Ritchie: the man who reduced Southampton from riches to rags.

Indirectly Southampton played a part in the first goal; it came from a free kick after first Channon and then Ball fouled Smith. McNab tapped the ball to Ritchie and his accurate kick bypassed the defensive wall and beat Katalinic. A few minutes later, Smith was again brought down in almost the same place, this time by Golac. Ritchie's kick was blocked, but the ball found its way to Gatting via Foster's head from a Thomas cross and the game was settled.

SOUTHAMPTON: I Katalinic; I Golac, N Holmes, S Williams, C Nicholl, M Waldron, K Keegan, M Channon, S Moran, D Armstrong, A Ball.

BRIGHTON: G Moseley; D Shanks, S Nelson, T Grealish, S Foster, S Gatting, G Ryan, G Smith, A Ritchie, N McNab, M Thomas.

Referee: D Hedges (Oxford).

A forgotten man in a memorable role

By a Special Correspondent

Liverpool 3 Arsenal 0

Australian born Craig Johnston, the player who cannot command a regular place at Liverpool, set the European champions on the way to a fine League Cup victory over Arsenal at Anfield.

Liverpool, holders of the trophy earned last night's second crack et theGunners by virtue of having forced a 0—0 draw at Highbury last week. And when it finished all square and goalless again last night after 90 minutes it seemed a third meeting between this closely-locked pair was inevitable.

Liverpool, with the injured pair of skipper Thompson and Irish international Whelan both out of the action preferred to bring Alan Kennedy and Lee into their line-up leaving Johnston once again the substitute. But Lee, feeling the pace after a lengthy lay-off with a muscle injury was taken off after 72 minutes and Johnston's moment had arrived.

The nearest to a goal in normaltime for Arsenal came when Nicholas put a 17th minute shot against the foot of the post after a careless mistake by Hansen. Nicholas, victim of a Souness tackle, was carried off in the 40th minute, Hankin substituting.

Nicholas later had six stitches in a knee wound. Liverpool's best effort saw Lawrenson make a brilliant eighty-ninth minute run out of defence holding-off Sunderland. He took the ball half the length of the pitch but Wood deputizing in the Arsenal goal for injury-victim Jennings, touched his shot against the face of the bar.

Souness, however, paved the way for the goal that really settled it in the fourth minute of extra time. The Scottish international intercepted, then went past Rix and Talbot before sending in Johnson to put a shot past Wood from an acute angle.

Six minutes later and it really was all over when teenager Robson brought down Rush in the area and McDermott left Wood helpless with his penalty spot drive.

With 12 minutes left Johnston did some good work, putting the ball into the path of Dalglish, who shot high and powerfully into the roof of the net. And to complete Arsenal's night of woe they had three players booked, Talbot, Hankin and Whyte.

LIVERPOOL: B Grobbelaar; P Neal, M Lawrenson, A Kennedy, R Kennedy, A Hansen, K Dalglish, S Lee (sub: C Johnston), I Rush, T McDermott, G Souness.

ARSENAL: G Wood; S Robson, K Sansom, B Talbot, D O'Leary, C Whyte, J Hollins, A Sunderland, P Davis, P Nicholas, G Rix.

Referee: D Lloyd (Worcester).

Cashing in on an absent bank manager

Hamburg, facing a 3—2 deficit, could be without three key players against Aberdeen in their Uefa Cup third round second leg clash in Hamburg tonight. Hartwig in midfield and Hieronymus in defence are ruled out because they have collected two yellow cards in this season's tournament.

Yet the biggest blow to their plans was the news that Kaltz, their international defender, is doubtful because of a broken toe. He received the injury in West Germany's 4—0 World Cup qualifying win over Bulgaria last month, and an X-ray yesterday and was declared fit by the club doctor. But the 28-year-old star said: "It still hurts when I run or kick the ball."

Hrubesch's two goals in the first leg two weeks ago mean that the Germans need a 1—0 win here for a quarter-final place on the away goals rule.

Dundee United aim to hit the jackpot in their Uefa tie against Winterslag, of Belgium, at Tannadice Park. United, attempting to reach the quarter-final stage for the first time, face the prospect of playing on a brick-hard pitch. Subzero temperatures yesterday meant that frost penetrated the polythene cover which the club had laid down to protect part of the playing surface.

"It looks like being a lottery," muttered the United manager, Jim McLean, whose side emerged with a creditable goalless draw from a first leg on a quagmire pitch in Belgium last week. "I feel the conditions will suit a side trying to frustrate us, as Winterslag will attempt to do."

Phillip, a key central defender, has reported fit after a 24-hour stomach bug and the full-back Murray has recovered from a blistered foot. The part-time Belgians, who knocked out Arsenal in the last round, arrived in Dundee with worries of their own.

One of them concerned Eric van Lessen, their captain, who is a bank manager. He seemed certain to miss the match, a blow that the Winterslag coach called "a catastrophe".

● York City have dismissed their manager, Barry Lyons, and offered him his former position of youth coach. He was given until the end of the month to decide whether to accept. The assistant manager, Kevin Randall, has taken over as caretaker manager.

● Frank Worthington, the former England striker, will not be leaving Birmingham City. Jim Smith, the club manager, said: "We are short of cover in this department and I will be telling Frank that he is staying. I want him to fight for a place here."

● Bob Lord, one of football's most controversial characters, died at his home in Burnley after a long illness. He was 73. He was chairman of Burnley for 26 years, senior vice-president of the Football League and a member of the Football Association Council.

Rugby Union



It's cold down here: Walker, the Cambridge lock, lifts himself from the snowy Twickenham turf.

Cambridge reach their snowy peak

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Oxford Univ 6 Cambridge Univ 9

Cambridge, after a hundred years of perseverance, climbed their mountain on a thick carpet of snow at Twickenham yesterday in conditions that may have been unique for the University Match. They moved ahead in the series for the first time when repairing a half-time deficit of 3—6 to defeat Oxford by three penalty goals to two. They now lead with 44 victories to 43. So Cambridge retain the Bowring Bowl.

That is not an appealing scoreline, but nothing more glamorous could reasonably be expected. Indeed both teams deserve praise for making it, with the fierce and wholesome commitment traditional to the occasion, an exciting and always absorbing spectacle.

Exchanges at the press conference afterwards were less warming. The Oxford captain, Nigel Roberts, said he could not believe that the centenary game should have been played in such conditions: "I was disgusted that the snow was not cleared from the pitch", he said. His view was supported by the Cambridge coach, Tony Rodgers.

The secretary of the Rugby Football Union, Air Commodore Bob Weighill, said that they had faced "an incredibly difficult 'Catch 22' situation". There was no possibility of using machines to clear the pitch because it was too soft.

Oxford were good value for their first-half advantage, their forwards excelling themselves and a willing and enterprising back division giving their opponents plenty to think about. But it was a game of two distinct halves, Cambridge holding a consistent advantage down the breeze in the second period when their forwards lasted the stronger.

Nonetheless, Oxford threatened to snatch their brand from the burning in injury-time when their full back, Millerchip, launched a counter from a kick by Davies and Bibby set Wyatt free on the left.

Driving into the Cambridge 22, he put in a deft cross kick which led to an Oxford scrummage close to the line. But alas for Oxford's hopes—and due credit to the Cambridge hooker, Johnson, and his aides—they lost what might have been a crucial heel.

I can scarcely remember seeing Wyatt play a game of rugby without his putting an unusual imprint on it. That last foray was not the only occasion when he caused anxiety in Cambridge hearts. In the first half he collected another kick from the Cambridge captain for a run through the middle which had Millerchip and Bibby in support. That Oxford attack was nipped in the bud in the nick of time by Davies and Cooke.

It was Oxford, on the run of the game overall, who threatened to score the tries. For that reason alone, even many of Cambridge persuasion may concede that a draw would have been a fair result.

It seemed like an expedition on the Polar ice cap as the players hurled themselves into the early rucks. Much snow had to be brushed aside before Barnes put Oxford into the lead with a penalty from 30 metres when Cambridge offended at a lineout.

After 25 minutes, Oxford having made almost all the running, a diagonal kick by Barnes to the corner led to a scrummage at which Cambridge were pushed back and penalized for a collapse. The Oxford stand-off stabbed over another goal from a short run-up.

The tide looked to be turning for Cambridge when a thrust from Davies was conclusively stopped by Millerchip. Just afterwards the Oxford flanker, Searle, fell offside at a scrummage and Rose added his first penalty, to make it 6—3 at the interval.

Their captain, Davies, had not so far conducted the Cambridge piece with consistent accuracy and Rose too, had not been infallible. But at the start of the second half two good kicks by Da[illegible] led to a scrummage [illegible] Oxford, and Rose [illegible] first of the penalties [illegible] flopped. It was [illegible] way out on the [illegible] later, he struck the [illegible] from the other side [illegible] sister Oxford had been [illegible] for a late tackle on C[illegible].

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: [illegible] Halliday (Downside and St [illegible]), D M Wyatt [illegible] Catherine's), S Barnes [illegible] St Edmund Hall), [illegible] Hall), J G M Webster [illegible] Oriel), A H Hobart [illegible] and Exeter), N [illegible] Henry VIII, Coventry, and St [illegible] J P Searle (King's [illegible] Hertford), G T [illegible] versity of Cape Town and [illegible] T Roberts (Glenalmond and [illegible] captain), A O [illegible] (Truro [illegible]), A W Brooks [illegible] College and Hertford).

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: [illegible] Rose (Loughborough GS and [illegible]), T S O Brien (Bradfield [illegible] Jesus), R J Boyd-Moss (Bedford [illegible] Magdalene), A M J McGaary (Kind[illegible] College, Taunton, and Fitzwilliam), [illegible] J Cooke (Stonyhurst and Magdalene), G H Davies (King Edward VI GS, Stourbridge and Selwyn, captain), [illegible] C Cullen (Christ's Hospital [illegible] Downing), C J Kingston [illegible] Magdalene), J N Johnson [illegible] and Downing), S M Gill [illegible] RGS and Fitzwilliam), [illegible] (Abbey HS, Redditch, and Downing), D R Walker (Lancaster RGS and Downing), C W Biddell (Christ's Hospital and Magdalene), N J Bennett [illegible] Richard Hale and Fitzwilliam), [illegible] Lillington (Fettes and [illegible]).

Referee: C Norling (Wales).

Time has come for Wallabies to play Mark Ella

By Peter West

After the disappointment of their defeat by Wales last Saturday the Australians will be aiming, at Vale of Lune this afternoon, to lift themselves again with a convincing victory over Lancashire.

That would be opportune at a time when they have grounds for believing that John Hipwell may be fit to play against Scotland on Saturday week in spite of the painful rib cartilage injury he sustained in the second half of the Welsh international, and of a tweaked hamstring which bothered him from the outset.

To patch up their outstanding scrum half for the big games of the tour remains a Wallaby priority. The selectors may also have to decide whether the time has come to bring in Mark Ella as his partner, and move Paul McLean, whose goal kicking (despite what happened against Wales) is essential, from stand-off half to the centre.

There is no grand slam prospect now, so they might as well take a chance with Ella on a hit or bust principle at Murrayfield and Twickenham. Ella is capable of making the midfield play look a lot more exciting. In the conditions here, he can also be made to look erratic under pressure. Will the Wallabies take an exciting risk?

In the meantime, McLean has been switched to full back for the Lancashire match in a side that includes seven of their side (apart from Philip Cox, who replaced Hipwell) from the Welsh international.

The Australians, who are due to play their first game in Scotland three days later, against Glasgow, now feel free to ring a few changes between their Wednesday and Saturday teams. They are wise to pick a useful combination against a Lancashire XV which sees this contest as being the first leg of what could be a notable double in their centenary season. The second will be the final of the county championship.

Nine Lancastrians who represented the North of England against the touring side are now reinforced by John Carleton, who missed that match because of injury. If the side can recapture the form which settled Gloucestershire's hash the other day, the Wallabies will do well to win. Their captain, Tony Shaw, reverts to his old position on a flank, which might be an indication that the selectors are thinking of reshaping their pack for the Scottish international.

LANCASHIRE: K O'Brien (Broughton Park); J Carleton (Orrell), A M Bond (Sale), A Wright (Sale), M A C Slemen (Liverpool); P Williams (Orrell), S J Smith (Sale); D Tabern (Fylde), M Dixon (Fylde), D Southern (Orrell), P Moss (Orrell), W B Beaumont (Fylde, captain), J Syddall (Waterloo), R Stevenson (Sale), K Moss (Liverpool).

AUSTRALIANS: P E McLean; P Grigg, A G Slack, M H Cox, B J Moon; M Ella, P A Cox; J E C Meadows, L Walker, D J Curran, A A Shaw (captain), M J Mathers, S A Williams, G Roche, M E Loane.

Oxford to forget the blues

Oxford aim to discard the blues of yesterday's rugby defeat by Cambridge at Twickenham by defeating them in the 30th University football match at Wembley today, starting at 2 p.m.

The Wembley pitch, like that at Twickenham, was covered with snow. But, according to a stadium spokesman, there is no danger of the match being postponed.

The spokesman added: "Our head groundsman is leaving the snow on the pitch overnight to protect it from the frost. Then in the morning his staff will sweep it off."

Oxford include six Blues, including the captain Ralph Cowan, and have announced another, Kevin Varty, as one of their two substitutes.

Cambridge, on the other hand, can call on four men with previous experience of a University football match, including the captain Paul Dempsey and the goalkeeper Mike Power, a Blue for both universities.

Even though Oxford won last year's match 2—0 the day after losing at Twickenham, they are 13—7 down to Cambridge.

OXFORD: S Ridge (Dr Challoner's GS, Amersham and Worcester); R Edbrooke (Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, Bristol and Hertford), K Sach (G Badlow CS and Merton), D Rogers (St Albans, and Brasenose), [illegible] Cowan (Lewes Priory and Magdalen, captain), M Kukla (Manchester GS and Wadham), S Zneimer (British School of Brussels and Queen's), K Hayes (Queen Elizabeth's GS Blackburn and Merton), V Boyle (St Jennings College and Magdalen), A Hurstclive (Wolverhampton GS and St John's), O Rutledge (St Cuthbert's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Balliol).

CAMBRIDGE: M Power (Devonport HS and Girton), D Hardless (Desborough, Maidenhead and Jesus), J Wholgemuth (Wyggeston Sixth Form College, Leicester and Jesus), J Healy (St Michael's College, Leeds and Jesus), J Ironside (St Edmund, Canterbury and Trinity Hall), P Dempsey (City of Leicester and St John's, captain), A Powell (Stanney County CS, Ellesmere Port and Gonville and Caius), G Llewellyn (Chetham's School of Music and Gonville and Caius), M Eardley (St Joseph's College, Stoke-on-Trent and Trinity Hall), R Metana (Eton and Magdalene), P Crompton (King Edward VI GS, Stafford and St John's).

When referee blew up

A referee who retaliated after being punched by a player he had just ordered off has himself been suspended until May 30, 1983. The incident happened when Jeff Howard, from Rhyl, was in charge of a Clwyd cup-tie between Rhuddlan and Holywell Town on September 26. The North Wales Coast FA disciplinary committee have withdrawn the referee's registration.

Stevenson halts Watford

Burnley 2 Watford 1

Two goals in five minutes midway through the first half put Burnley through to the semi-finals of the Football League Group Cup at Turf Moor. Both sides fielded depleted sides with Burnley making seven changes and Watford five and the home team adapted better to the frosty surface.

They went ahead in the 18th minute when the Watford defence failed to cut out a through pass from Steve Taylor and Derek Scott shot past Steele from eight yards. Five minutes later a long throw from Scott was helped on by Taylor for full back David Holt to score the second.

Watford dominated the second half and pulled a goal back when Luther Blissett ran 50 yards to meet a through pass from Pritchett and shoot past Alan Stevenson. But the Burnley goalkeeper was outstanding for the rest of the game.

Newport Co 0 Grimsby Town 2

Grimsby Town lost no time in dominating their quarter final. After three minutes their centre forward Kevin Drinkell sent a header just wide and five minutes later his fellow striker, Gary Beacock, scored a superb goal, chipping the ball over the head of Newport County's goalkeeper Mark Kendall.

Newport fought back with great endeavour but lacked finishing power and after 60 minutes Drinkell scored a second goal.

League Cup
Fourth round
Crystal Palace v West Bromwich—postponed.
Replay
Liverpool (0) 3 Arsenal (0) 0
Johnston, McDermott (pen), Dalglish 21,375
After extra time. Winners home to Barnsley.
Group Cup
Quarter-final round
Burnley (2) 2 Watford (0) 1
Scott, Holt — Blissett 2,658
Newport (0) 0 Grimsby (1) 2
Beacock, Drinkell 2,206
First division
South'ton (0) 0 Brighton (0) 2
Ritchie, Gatting 22,128

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester U	18	9	5	4	28	15	32
Ipswich	16	10	2	4	28	19	32
Southampton	18	9	3	6	32	27	30
Tottenham H	16	9	1	6	26	19	28
Swansea C	17	9	3	5	27	25	30
Brighton	18	6	9	3	24	18	27

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Witton Albion 3, Worksop 0.

Rugby Union

UNIVERSITY MATCH: Oxford 6, Cambridge 9.
CLUB MATCHES: Neath 24, Ebbw Vale 3; Plymouth Albion 16, Exeter University 6.
SCHOOLS MATCH: Queen Elizabeth GS, Wakefield 14, Welbeck 9.

Skiing



A victory salute from Gaspoz flanked by Mahre (right) and Stenmark.

Gaspoz springs a second surprise

Aprica, Italy, Dec 8.—The Swiss teenager, Joel Gaspoz, produced the second successive surprise in the men's World Cup [illegible] season today beating the [illegible]rites. Phil Mahre of the [illegible] States and Sweden's Ingemark in the first giant [illegible] The 19-year-old Gaspoz's [illegible] ame two days after the veteran, Franz Klammer first downhill at Val [illegible] ance.

[illegible] at Mahre, the defending Cup champion, by [illegible] conds. Mahre, how[illegible] ole on the first run [illegible] ged to finish. Sten[illegible] several crucial [illegible] run and lagged [illegible] ehind Gaspoz. [illegible] her, Steve, was [illegible] n four seconds [illegible]

[illegible] rmer last season, [illegible] in the top ten [illegible] but had never [illegible] when he was [illegible] runs down the Palabione track. [illegible] e young Swiss [illegible] d both runs and He said he was finished first in [illegible] ndings, based on downhill and today's giant slalom. The combined victory gave Mahre leadership in the overall cup standings with 45 points, ahead of the Swiss downhiller Peter Muller, who finished second in France and sixth in the combined for 30 points.

Stenmark, the Olympic champion who is seeking two golds in the giant and special slaloms at the world championships in Schladming next month, misjudged the lower part of the first heat, clocking only the fourth best time.

The strong Swiss showing was rounded out by Jean Luc Fournier's fourth place and the tenth place earned by Pirmin Zurbrigen. *Yugoslavia's Bojan Krizaj* finished fifth, dropping two places from the first heat. Ernest Riedelsperger of Austria moved into sixth, despite starting 25th in the first run.

Alexandr Zhirov of the Soviet Union, among Mahre's top challengers for the overall championship, lagged behind in ninth. Liechtenstein's Andreas Wenzel and the Austrian downhill specialist, Leonard Stock, took 11th and 19th place

RESULTS: 1, J Gaspoz (Switzerland), 1 min 19.76 sec + 1:18.73=2:38.49; 2, P Mahre (United States) 1:20.54 + 1:19.93=2:40.47; 3, I Stenmark (Sweden) 1:21.05 + 1:19.49=2:40.53; 4, L Fournier (Switzerland) 1:21.25 + 1:20.53=2:41.78; 5, B Krizal (Yugoslavia) 1:20.92 + 1:21.16=2:42.08; 6, E Riedelsperger (Austria) 1:21.10 + 1:21.47=2:42.57; 7, B Nockler (Italy) 1:21.33 + 1:21.27=2:43.10; 8, S Mahre (United States) 1:21.78 + 1:21.42=2:43.20; 9, A Zhirov (Soviet Union) 1:22.23 + 1:21.33=2:43.56; 10, P Zurbriggen (Switzerland) 1:22.9 + 1:21.16=2:44.10.

Combined standings after Val d'Isere downhill and Aprica giant slalom: 1, P Mahre, 29.66 pts; 2, A Wenzel (Liechtenstein), 53.51; 3, L Stock (Austria), 58.42; 4, A Zhirov, 66.45; 5, V Tsyganov (Soviet Union) 70.32; 6, P Muller (Switzerland) 73.48; 7, P Luescher (Switzerland), 78.07; 8, M Vion (France) 93.72; 9, B Zeman (Czechoslovakia) 127.66.

Overall World Cup standings: 1, P Mahre, 45 pts; 2, P Mueller 30; 3 equal, F Klammer (Austria), J Gaspoz, A Wenzel 25; 6, A Zhirov 19; 7 equal, T Buergler (Switzerland), V Tsyganov, L Stock, I Stenmark 15; 11, S Meli (Switzerland), 13; 12 equal, S Podborski (Canada), J-L Fournier 12.

Scottish snow reports. *Cairngorms: Only one main run complete, al lother broken.* Lower slopes: No snow. Vertical runs: 600ft. Access roads: Slight snow. Snow level: 600ft. Glen Shee and *Glencoe: Insufficient snow.* Lecht: A few main runs complete but narrow, others broken. New snow on a firm base. Lower slopes: Limited nursery areas. *New snow* Vertical runs: 600ft. Access roads: Slight snow. Snow

Squash rackets

Briars and Kenyon achieve a predictable meeting

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Correspondent

Gawain Briars and Philip Kenyon will contest tomorrow's final of the British National Championship, sponsored by Thorntons, at Abbeydale Park, Sheffield. The seedings suggested this would happen and in the absence of the aging and ailing Jonah Barrington there was never much doubt that it would. Each has played four matches and Briars has lost only one game, *Kenyon only two.*

Both were beaten by Barrington last year but it must be doubtful whether, at the age of forty, he could have repeated that *remarkable feat. Briars was* Barrington's predecessor as champion and the record indicates that he will start favourite tomorrow. But Kenyon occasionally beats him, both are playing well, and there is every prospect of a tough final.

In the semi-final round, Briars took 61 minutes to beat Peter Verow, 9—3, 9—6, 3—9, 9—2 and Kenyon had a 9—2, 10—8, 9—3 win over Ian Robinson in 43 minutes. Robinson's energy and confidence had been eroded because he was back on court only *twenty hours after completing an* arduous win over John le Lievre, who kept him at work for an hour and forty-eight minutes.

That match finished at 11.45 on Monday night. After yesterday's defeat, Robinson was not particularly gracious in his comments about the tournament committee's scheduling. But it is certainly true that Monday's dark arrangements—plus the quality of le Lievre's opposition—damaged Robinson's chances of testing Kenyon.

Nor, for that matter, was Verow particularly gracious in his chatty on-court exercises in psychological warfare against the more introverted Briars. It was tolerably amusing when Verow, having saved a game ball in the second game with a superb backhand volley into the cross-court nick, posed the interesting question: "turning point?" But it was intolerably provocative when he verbally rubbed in the fact that the top seed was prone to make unexpected errors on the forehand.

Verow made only 12 mistakes in the course of a patient and disciplined performance, indulging his sense of adventure only with corkscrew services that could not cost him points. His *insoluble problem was that he* could not deceive the cute and long-limbed Briars often enough to create the openings for winning shots. Tidy and discreet though Verow was, it was only in a tactically astute third game that he managed to surpass Briars' percentage of winning shots. Briars excelled with the backhand drop in the first game and hit an exemplary variety of winners in the second and fourth.

Kenyon v Robinson was Lancashire v Yorkshire, which is always a stimulating ingredient. Robinson took some time to loosen-up and it was always clear that he was using hi head to ave his legs. He tried to keep the rallies as short as possible, but except at the beginning of the third game, he did so with discretion.

Today'c fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

UEFA CUP: Third round, second leg: Dundee United v Winterslag; Dynamo Bucharest v Göteborg; Feyenoord v Radnicki Nis (7.0); Hajduk Split v Valencia (3.30); Hamburg v Aberdeen (7.0); Kaiserslautern v Lokeren (7.0); Neuchatel v Sporting Lisbon (7.0); Real Madrid v Rapid Vienna (8.0).

LEAGUE CUP: Fourth round: Crystal Palace v West Bromwich Albion; Everton v Ipswich Town (7.45).

LEAGUE GROUP CUP: Quarter-final: Bradford City v Shrewsbury Town; Peterborough v Wimbledon.

UNIVERSITY MATCH: Oxford v Cambridge (Wembley, 2.0).

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Alvechurch v Gloucester; Cheltenham v Kidderminster.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Leeds v Sheffield Wednesday; Nottingham Forest v Liverpool (7.0).

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Crystal Palace v Bristol Rovers; Norwich v Orient (2.30); Reading v Tottenham.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Feltham v Lewes.

FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Blackpool v Burnley (7.0); Haringey Borough v Maidstone United. Replay: Chester v Port Vale.

Rugby Union

TOUR MATCH: Lancashire v Australians (Vale of Lune, 2.15).

CLUB MATCHES: Cardiff v Swansea (7.15); Coventry v Nottingham (7.15); Gloucester v Exeter University (7.0); Pontypool v Cross Keys (7.0); Metropolitan Police v Eastern Suburbs (Australia) (2.15).

REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Civil Service v United Banks (Chiswick, 2.15); United Hospitals v RAF (Teddington, 2.15).

Rugby League

FIRST DIVISION: Hull v Leigh.

HOCKEY: Welsh inter-county indoor tournament (RAF St Athan).

CROSS COUNTRY: London Services League (Hendon).

SQUASH RACKETS: Commonwealth open tournament (Commonwealth SC, Blackpool).

Hockey

Bucks drawn at home to Worcestershire

By Sydney Friskin

Surrey who eliminated Middlesex, the holders, from the county championship, have drawn a bye into the quarter-final round. They await the winners of the match in the preliminary round on January 31 between the Royal Air Force and Yorkshire.

Buckinghamshire, last year's runners-up, will meet Worcestershire, the Midlands champions in the preliminary round. Buckinghamshire draw most of their players from *Slough but* will not be able to call on Steve and Ken Partington, who will be playing for Worcestershire.

Suffolk, the eastern champions, are at home to *Nottinghamshire* in the quarter-final round which will be played on February 14 and it is more than likely that Suffolk will choose Crane Sports *Club, Ipswich, as the venue. If* Suffolk win they could expect to meet either Surrey or Yorkshire in the semi-final round.

The Hockey Association, at their new headquarters at 16 Upper Woburn Place, London NW1, also announced the draw yesterday for the first round of the club championship, sponsored by Rank Xerox to be played on February 7.

The draw for each event is:

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Preliminary round: RAF v Yorkshire; Cambridgeshire v Devon; Buckinghamshire v Worcestershire. Quarter-final round: RAF or Yorkshire v Surrey; Suffolk v Nottinghamshire; Gloucestershire v Lancashire or Cheshire; Cambridgeshire or Devon v Buckinghamshire or Worcestershire.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: First round: Bournville v Preston; Amersham v Southgate; Olton and West Warwick v Cambridge City; Hounslow v Guildford; Maidenhead v Portsmouth and Southsea; West Gloucester v Richmond; Slough v Hendon; East Five v York; Isca v Stone; Durham University v Neston; Bromley v St Albans; Bishop's Stortford v Reading; Firebrands v RAF Strike Command; Fareham v *Pressed Steel Works*; Nottingham v Royal Engineers; Fords v Derby.

Last two places filled

Jimmy White and Tony Meo, two of the most talented young players in England, have been selected to fill the last two places *in a field of 12 for the Masters* tournament, sponsored by Benson and Hedges. The event will be held at the Wembley Conference Centre from January 26 to 31. *Both are left-handed players.*

DRAW: First round: D Mountjoy v J Spencer; David Taylor v A Meo; R Reardon v Dennis Taylor; J White v E Charlton. Quarter-final round: S Davis v Mountjoy or Spencer; C Thorburn v David Taylor or Meo; *T Griffiths v Reardon or Dennis Taylor*; A Higgins v White or Charlton.

Rugby League

Leeds ask world record fee for scrum half

By Keith Macklin

In what seems an obvious case of a club being reluctant to sell a player, Leeds have placed their international scrum half Kevin Dick on the transfer list at a world record fee of £100,000.

The powerfully-built Dick, a scrum half heavier than some front row forwards, has been at Headingley for seven years. He submitted a written request, stating that he felt that a change of club and a different environment would enhance his game and improve his chances of gaining further international honours.

Dick played in the first two internationals against New Zealand last season, but was then replaced by *Arnold Walker* of Whitehaven for the third game. This term, with Leeds having *a poor season in both championship* and cup games, Dick has obviously not caught the eyes of the selectors. The two scrum halves chosen for England and Great Britain have been Steve Nash of Salford and Andy Gregory of Widnes.

Dick has shared in the considerable trophy-hunting successes of Leeds during his seven years with the club. He scored a brilliant individual try in a Wembley Cup win over Widnes and a long-range goal clinched a Yorkshire Cup final against Hull *Kingston Rovers. In* the premiership final victory over Bradford Northern in 1979 he kicked a record eight goals. During his time with Leeds Dick has scored 510 points from 40 tries and 202 placed and dropped goals. This season he is leading try scorer with seven.

The fee of £100,000 will frighten away all but the tiny handful of clubs with sufficient financial reserves to move into the transfer market. Leeds regard Dick as one of their key players as they strive to revive past glories, and they will not let him go easily.

The £80,000 fee asked by Hull Kingston Rovers for the Great Britain hooker David Watkinson has proved too high, and after being on the transfer list for three months, the player yesterday decided not to move.

The national coaching scheme administered by the British Amateur Rugby League Association has advertised for a fulltime director of coaching. The appointment is made financially feasible through grant aid from the Sports Council and the professional Rugby League.

Steve Hartley, the Hull Kingston Rovers and Great Britain stand-off half, expects to be fit for Saturday's John Player Trophy semi-final with Swinton. Hartley damaged a thigh muscle in Sunday's international against France

Sport in brief

New ocean racing prize

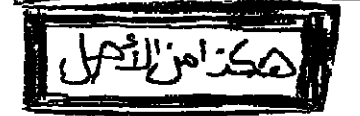
Yachting launches its own British inspired grand prix next week. Over the next two years the four most important offshore racing series will comprise a new world ocean racing championship, which was launched in London yesterday by the sponsors, Mumm Champagne.

Mumm, who sponsored the *Admiral's Cup*, won by Britain last summer, also announced plans for joint-sponsorship of the America's Cup in future.

Rrepresentatives of syndicates among seven countries hoping to compete for the most covered trophy were able to discuss mutual camaign plans in a triangular telephone link up to Paris and New York from London.

☐ Ron Clarke, of Australia was in excellent condition after undergoing open heart surgery at a Melbourne hospital yesterday. Clarke, aged 44, was suffering from a leaking heart valve, a defect which he believes may have started in 1968 when he collapsed after the Olympic 10,000 metres run in the thin air of Mexico City.

The Olympic champion Jorg Woithe spearheads East Germany's challenge for the European Swimming Cup at Barnet starting on Friday. Woithe, still smarting from September's European 100 metres freestyle defeat by Per Johansson of Sweden will try to regain top form for this 16-nation three-day competition.



Cricket

England must concentrate on playing not umpiring

From Richard Streeton
Bangalore, Dec 8

England go into the second Test match here tomorrow firmly on the defensive, their crushing defeat at Bombay having completely changed the pattern that the six-game series with India could take. England are planning to include an extra batsman in Gatting and to risk playing only four bowlers. One of them, Willis, is by no means certain of being fit because of a stomach upset. India already hold the initiative in a match that is expected to be played in perfect batting conditions.

Willis in terms of speed and hostility is the most fearsome bowler on either side, but he has been ravaged by a form of dysentery for the past fortnight. It makes his penetrative bowling against South Zone last Friday all the more heroic. Willis has now been put on antibiotics and although the drugs sometimes work, it is a type of treatment that he tends to react to in an unfavourable way. It will be his own decision just prior to the toss whether he plays and he has been told that a 90 per cent fit Willis would be acceptable.

Without Willis England lack their main striking force with the ball. He is the one bowler capable of harassing the Indian batsmen into fundamental errors. Lever would come into the England side ahead of Allott, the only alternative on the grounds of experience if Willis withdrew. Lever, in the cricketers' phrase, has sprayed the ball about on his appearances so far but his maturity and knowledge of the big occasion are felt to outweigh Allott's better line.

England have chosen 12 players for the match with a final decision being taken just before the start. The Willis-Lever issue might have a bearing on who is left out if Gatting is included. Emburey is the most likely omission, although there is a school of thought that says Emburey could be more useful than Underwood if the wicket breaks up in the later stages. Fletcher is known to want Underwood in the side and there was even a suggestion that if Willis is unfit, England would go into the game with an attack comprising Botham, Dilley, Underwood and Emburey with Gooch and Gatting to help out. Botham, fortunately, is so strong and can bowl for such long periods, that for England to include only two bowlers might not be quite such a gamble as it might appear.

Gatting has thoroughly earned his opportunity and there are those who would definitely play him ahead of Gower. Gower has been twice dropped by England during his Test career and in addition has come close to it on tour before. To be fair to Gower, he does fret about his own shortcomings as far as heavy scoring is concerned. The fact remains, though, that he continues to play loosely outside the off stump and that at times his lack of footwork betrays him badly. Gatting, with nothing like Gower's natural ability, has shown far more application on this tour with fewer chances. Gatting was the main reason England strode through a shaky patch in the one-day international at Ahmedabad and with Fletcher he pulled things round against South Zone in the second innings when momentarily things went badly wrong.

The England batting currently does not inspire confidence. They were routed by spin and seam in the first and second innings in the first Test and proved incapable of attempting a feasible run chase in the last game at Hyderabad. Gooch hit some poor bowling with assurance against South Zone to end his own lean spell but there were still moments when he was failing to play straight. Boycott, the most dedicated member of the party in his willingness to practise, has become fallible to the ball leaving him late. Travaré has become obsessed with the forward defensive prod, and Botham is in danger of becoming an exhibitionist slogger. Fletcher is playing better than any of his colleagues at the moment.

England know that they must score heavily if then are not to lose this second Test. It is, perhaps, rather unfortunate that the inclusion of an extra batsman, has been brought about by the thought that two batsmen might fail legitimately and that two or three others might fall to bad umpiring decisions. It is a train of thought that epitomizes the most worrying aspect about England's cricket on this tour from the start. There is no doubt that umpiring mistakes have marred every match and the England players have taken it very, very badly.

Raman Subba Row, the England manager, was a member of Peter May's team to Australia in 1958-59 when the throwing controversy was at its height and he has acute personal knowledge of the way that complete disillusionment and helplessness can seep into the minds of a touring party who are convinced that they are being cheated.

Fletcher and Willis have spent hours instilling into their colleagues the need to put the umpiring problem out of their minds, to eliminate the riskier strokes and to get on with the game. To a camp follower who is privileged to share the teams' off-duty moments they have not succeeded. The facts remain that both teams have suffered umpiring mistakes and that the Indian umpires are not as bad as the England players believe and that they are also not as good as the Indian board say.

England were perfectly justified in their official complaint after the Bombay Test match, although it was a shame that their prematch letters and verbal discussions were not put on an official basis right from the start. Nothing can now be done and the sooner the England players accept the position the better chance they have of justifying their belief that they are the better side. In a sense the present umpiring worries could be said to be cricket's equivalent of those living by the sword perishing by the sword. There is not a single player in Fletcher's side—and I make no exceptions—who can put his hand on his heart and claim never to have made an appeal that he knew deep down was merely a try-on.

With Test players nowadays screaming appeals—both genuine and optimistic—from wherever they are fielding, it has placed enormous pressure on the umpires, not least in India with the crowd following every ball on their transistor radios and yelling at every delivery. If mistakes are made in the heat of the moment the players can only blame themselves.

England's official complaint was rejected for lack of positive proof. It was effectively a face saving exercise and there can be no doubt that the Indian board are aware of the problem. Meanwhile the two umpires standing in this second Test have already irked the touring side with mistakes in earlier games. Human nature being what it is though there is a strong likelihood that this game will be marked by a series of negative appeals with few decisions being given.

This is only the sixth Test match played in Bangalore since the first in 1974 and three of them have been draws. We are 3,000 feet above sea level and a breeze helps alleviate the comparatively cool 85°F. This is the most pleasant city England have yet visited with its tree-lined avenues and emerald green lawns and parks that made it the most popular station in bygone days for British soldiers and airmen. Colin Cowdrey remains the most famous cricketer born here where the city fathers unlike their counterparts elsewhere have retained the echoes from the Raj.

Queen Victoria and other royal statues still watch over the main intersections and English street names are retained.


Gatting : has thoroughly earned his opportunity

Four-fifths of the stadium is now encircled by huge roofed stands and these cast shadows on the playing square in the final half hour. However, England today rejected a suggestion that the starting time each day should be advanced by 15 minutes. Five years ago Greigs England side arrived 3—0 up in the series and were heavily beaten on a pitch that crumbled. There does not seem any likelihood of the pitch deteriorating this time, although it could be damp. Initially the groundsman forecast it would last a fortnight, today Fletcher thinks it might crumble after four days.

India are rightly full of confidence with their 1—0 lead behind them, although there are still those who wish Chauhan was playing instead of Srikanth to open with Gavaskar. While England are thankful that Kirti Azad is again expected to be retained ahead of the other off-spinner Shivlal Yadav, who bowled so well for South Zone. A soothsayer of the team hotel's payroll is adamant that the cards say England's bowlers will win them this game. Local officials believe it will be drawn and England in their present mood would probably settle for that. It is certainly going to be hard for them to win.

INDIA (from): S M Gavaskar (captain), K Srikanth, D B Vengsarkar, G R Viswanath, S M Patil, S M Kirmani, Kapil Dev, S Madan Lal, R D Shastri, D R Doshi, Kirti Azad, Shivlal Yadav.

ENGLAND (from): G A Gooch, G Boycott, C J Tavaré, D I Gower, K W R Fletcher (captain), M W Gatting, I T Botham, G R Dilley, J E Emburey, R W Taylor, D L Underwood, R G D Willis.

Umpires: P R Punjabi and M V Gothaskar.


Lever : preferred to Allott if Willis withdraws

Mancell lifts Tasmania

Hobart, Dec. 8.—The West Indians were made to struggle by Tasmania on the second day of their rain-hit three-day match today. The all-rounder, Peter Mancell, held up the touring team with a fighting half-century and the fast bowler, Franklyn Stephenson, joined his compatriots by taking two quick wickets.

Tasmania, who scored 25 without loss in the 50 minutes play possible yesterday, were dismissed for 204 and reduced the West Indians to 38 for three by the close.

Mancell propped up the lower order by scoring 50 in 202 minutes in only his second first class match after Tasmania had slumped to 97 for four. Joel Garner and Harold Joseph did most of the damage with three wickets each.

Stephenson hit back for his adopted side when he held a return catch to dismiss Bacchus four nought. Greenidge was caught in the slips for 12 and Croft for six after the fast bowler came out as nightwatchman.

TASMANIA: First Innings

I Beven l-b-w b Croft	40
R Jeffery not out	10
N Allenby c Murray b Holding	9
D Boon b Joseph	21
R B Davison l-b-w b Garner	0
R Woolley c Holding b Croft	24
P Mancell c Murray b Garner	50
F Stephenson c Murray b Joseph	13
S Saunders b Holding	2
D Mullett b Garner	15
P Clough l-b-w b Joseph	0
Extras (b 4, l-b 7, w 1, n-b 1)	13
Total	204

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—50, 2—73, 3—82, 4—97, 5—136, 6—166, 7—171, 8—193, 9—196, 10—204.

BOWLING: Holding, 20—5—48—2; Croft, 17—0—52—2; Garner, 18.3—5—41—3; Joseph 21—7—45—3; Gomes, 1—0—5—0.

WEST INDIES: First Innings

C G Greenidge c Beven b Clough	12
S F A Bacchus c and b Stephenson	0
I V A Richards not out	18
C E H Croft c Saunders b Stephenson	6
H A Gomes not out	0
Extras (n-b 2)	2
Total (3 wkts)	38

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—5, 2—21, 3—32.

Cup date not yet decided

Melbourne, Dec 8.—The Australian Cricket Board said today that a new date for the Australia-Pakistan World Series Cup match at the Sydney Cricket Ground would not be set till later in the week. The one-day match, originally scheduled for today in the afternoon and night was postponed because of New South Wales' power restrictions caused by a power workers' strike.

The NSW Government ruled that the towering floodlights could not be used during the power crisis. The ACB spokesman said there was some discussion about setting a new date but nothing was finalized. The postponement could possibly cost the ACB up to $A250,000. The money already lost includes fares for both sides from Adelaide to Sydney, accommodation for three nights and thousands of dollars in advanced bookings for the game.—AP.

Warnapura's first Test

Colombo, Dec 8. — Bandula Warnapura, who captained the Sri Lankan team on their two-month tour of England earlier this year, will lead his country in its first Test, against the English next February.

Sri Lanka was admitted to the International Cricket Conference (ICC) last July and will play the first Test when England, now touring India, make a three-week visit in February.

The visitors will open their tour with a three-day game from February 9 against the Sri Lanka Cricket Board President's Eleven in Kandy. This will be followed by two one-day internationals on February 13 and 14 in Colombo and the five-day Test, starting on February 17, also in Colombo.

Warnapura, aged 29, will also captain the Sri Lankan side in the two one-day internationals.

The selectaors have appointed Duleep Mendis, also aged 29, now playing grade cricket for the Adelaide club in Australia, to captain the three-day game in Kandy.

Mendis is also likely to be appointed vice-captain to Warnapura in the Test match. He is expected to return to Sri Lanka from Australia next month, in time for the English tour.

Both Warnapura and Mendis have wide experience in leading Sri Lankan teams against foreign opposition. They also captained Sri Lankan sides when the Australians visited here in May on their way to England.—AFP.

☐ Bob Cottam, the former Hampshire and Northamptonshire fast bowler, has been appointed by the National Cricket Association as a coach with responsibility for the West Country. Cottam, aged 37, retired from first class cricket in 1976.

Racing

Plummer puts a price on the head of priceless National heritage

By Michael Seely

Lord Plummer, the chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board said last night that he could not accept the view of some commentators that the Grand National must be saved at any price, despite the position it occupied in our racing and national heritage.

Speaking at the Gimcrack dinner in York, he said that those who exhorted the Board to meet any demand, however inflated, were themselves "contributing to the very situation which we and they want to avoid. Everything has its price," he said "and as you all know, at this moment the sellers' price and the potential buyer's price remain far apart, a situation which is not made easier by the owners' refusal to allow the Board to survey the property at its own expense."

Lord Plummer then went on to add that the board would not be in a position to pay even a price it could justify unless there was an increase in the rate of levy. At the moment the board and the bookmakers are in dispute about the proposed increase of a fifth of a penny in the pound. This would amount to an additional sum of over £5m being available to the Board compared with that awarded in the 20th levy scheme which covered the financial year 1981/82.

The chairman then said that if there was no increase in levy rates next year, Aintree would not be the only casualty and that in order to restore its reserves to an adequate level, the board might have to consider cuts of between £2-3m to its projected budget for 1982/83.

To stress the gravity of the situation Lord Plummer pointed out that the prize money allocation in 1982 would be less in real terms than its contribution in 1978, the year the Royal Commission on Gambling's report was published. If agreement cannot be reached between the Levy Board and the bookmakers, the home secretary will have to adjudicate. And it could be mid-January before that decision is reached.

Earlier in his speech Lord Plummer said "the real villain of the piece is the treasury, whose take from racing, relative to that which goes back into the sport through the levy, outstrips that of any major racing country". The off-course betting duty is more than 11 times the present average of levy. Australia, for example, receives a return from betting of more than three and a half times that of this country. Pleas of this kind generally fall on deaf ears so far as the treasury is concerned, but it must be realized that the country benefits to the tune of some £200m annually from the betting industry.

Reverting to the Grand National, the situation between prospective purchasers and Bill Davies, the owner of Aintree, resembles a poker game will all the cards laid face upwards on the table. Mr Davies knows that the deadline for saving the National after next year is January, 1983. An educated guess is that the site might be worth somewhere between £3.5m and £4.5m. Mr Davies is believed to be asking for about £8m. These are the simple but unpleasant facts. Under the circumstances the situation may drag on for at least another year.

Unfortunately, all publicity has the effect of strengthening Mr Davies' hand, unless an alternative buyer to the Levy Board can be found. Both the Jockey Club and Levy Board fully understand the unique position that the National occupies in the nation's heart and are also fully aware of the fact that it could not be staged elsewhere. But, as Lord Plummer has pointed out, the present gap between the two prices is far too wide. So the cards wil remain on the table for the time being.

It is to be hoped that the weather will relent in time for the important meetings scheduled for this weekend to take place. The highlight is the Massey-Ferguson Gold Cup at Cheltenham on Saturday. There were 20 acceptors at the four-day stage of declarations for this valuable two and a half mile handicap. The list is headed by Lesley Ann, Henry Kissinger, Easter Eel and Artifice.

The best price on offer against Henry Kissinger is the 6—1 with William Hill, who also offer 7—1 against Lesley Ann and 9—1 Artifice. Easter Eel is top quoted at 8—1 with Ladbrokes. Despite Henry Kissinger's big weight 6—1 looks attractive. But unfortunately David Gandolfo, who has also accepted with Reidis, has not yet decided whether to run the Mackeson Gold Cup winner at Cheltenham or in the Wheeler's Restaurant Handicap at Lingfield Park.

As expected Heighlin, Pollardstown, Birds Nest, Ekbalco and Celtic Ryde have been declared for the Tia Maria Bula Hurdle and Goldspun heads the list of 31 acceptors for the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle Trial. The Bula Hurdle may well decide who is going to be the principal challenger to Daring Run in next March's Champion Hurdle. And those who fancy Heighlin for the championship might be advised to back him before Saturday's race.

As for the other meetings the same afternoon, Silver Buck is a definite runner for the Dick Brewitt Cup at Catterick Bridge, but Peter Easterby has not yet decided whether to take on Silver Buck with Little Owl or whether to send the Cheltenham Gold Cup winner to Lingfield. Obviously much will depend on the weather.

With Christmas approaching here are two books which are specially recommended for anybody's shopping list. Ed Byrne's Racing Year may sound expensive at £24, but like its predecessor it is a work of art. All the highlights are recorded in superb photography which capture vividly all the dramatic moments of 1981.

The second book, From Pillow to Post or The Life and Times of Rufus Beasley will have a more limited appeal. A famous jockey before becoming a shrewd and successful trainer, Beasley possesses an unrivalled knowledge both of men and horses and his off-beat Irish sense of humour makes the past live again for those who remember the era before and after the last war. From Pillow to Post has been published by Beasley's many friends and is available for £5.50.

Mouskos loses appeal

Michael Mouskos, a Cypriot race-horse owner, had his application for a trainer's licence refused for the second time in a month after a 20-minute hearing by the Jockey Club licensing committee in London yesterday.

The London hotelier, who owns 11 horses including the smart steeplechaser Captain John, said: "I'm rather surprised and disgusted about their decision. It was an injustice. They said I did not have the experience required, but I have been an owner for five years and during the past nine months the trainnig instructions have been given by me. I shall cosult a solicitor and if nothing comes out of that I shall stick by my original decision and chuck it all in".

Mr Mouskos, who owns six hotels, reckons he has spent up to £250,000 in five years of racing in Britain. He owns the Harraton Court stables at Exning near Newmarket, which has 30 boxes. During his involvement with racing, Mr Mouskos has employed Alan Jarvis, Peter Easterby, Frank Durr, Geoff Huffer, Arthur Goodwill and Dave Thom as his trainers.

☐ Daring Run, Pollardstown, Ekbalco and a previous winner Chinrullah are among 58 entries for the £20,000-added Sweeps Hurdle, which will be run at Leopardstown on January 9 instead of the usual date of December 27. There are seven English-trained entries.

☐ Richard Dennis, aged 17, who suffered head injuries in a fall at Devon in September has had his return to racing postponed until Boxing Day.

Four cards lost and one in doubt

There will be no racing in England for the second day running today. Yesterday's cards at Leicester and Sedgefield were abandoned early in the morning and today's cards at Hexham and Worcester were called off after afternoon inspections.

Prospects are not good for tomorrow's meeting at Carlisle. The course is frozen, and the clerk of the course, Kit Paterson, has scheduled an inspection for 3.0 today. At Uttoxeter a spokesman gave the advance official going as "good to soft". No inspection is planned.

STATE OF GOING (official): Hexham: abandoned: Worcester: abandoned. Tomorrow: Uttoxeter: good to soft; Carlisle: course frozen—inspection 3 p.m.

An appropriate appointment for a man of all the disciplines

Sir John set to make his mark

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

It is particularly appropriate that Sir John Miller, the Crown Equerry, has just begun his term of office as president of the Hunters' Improvement and National Light Horse Breeding Society. Not only is he the one person I can think of who is entitled to wear the Union Jack on his coat for three different disciplines—eventing, show jumping and driving—but he has always regarded hunting as his number one sport, having been brought up in the South Oxfordshire country. His father, General A. D. Miller, who commanded the Royal Scots Greys, was Master of the South Oxfordshire from 1914 to 1931.

Educated at Eton and Sandhurst—"unfashionable, nowadays!"—he went into the Welsh Guards rather than his father's regiment, which by then was mechanized. He never wanted anything to do with tanks and he had a lot of Welsh connexions through his mother. His great-grandfather was Member of Parliament for Glamorgan for 50 years and father of the House of Commons, and his brother-in-law, Sir Alexander Stanier, was in the Welsh Guards.

John Miller was in Gibraltar with his regiment when the Second World War broke out and went straight to France, where he remained until Dunkirk. He went back to France after the Normandy landings with the Guards Armoured Division. At the end of the war he spent two years in the United States and then returned to Germany, where he did a lot of riding and once rode with the British show jumping team at Aachen.

Stella was his first three-day-event horse, and he rode her at Badminton from 1950 to 1952. A brown mare, bred in Co Meath, out of a mare by Gold Court (sire of Golden Miller) who won many cross-country races in the Ward Union country, she was by Meteoric Prince by My Prince, who sired Prince Regent and the Grand National winners Reynoldstown and Gregalach.

Stella went to the Helsinki Olympic Games in 1952 as the mount of Bertie Hill, to whom her own had lent her. She was six when he bought her and for three years he worked quite hard at this new sport, getting up early in the morning to do dressage before breakfast in the chill of winter.

"But you can't go on forever asking for unlimited leave and still expect to get the jobs you want," Sir John said. "If riding is your top priority and your Army career comes only second, you must expect to get the second-class jobs."

Stella, who lived until she was 26, bred seven foals after she retired, the most famous of which, Purple Star, was Princess Anne's first event horse.

In 1961 Sir John (he was knighted in 1974) was appointed Crown Equerry—a job that he enjoys so much that it is difficult to decide, he says, just where pleasure ends and work begins. He is responsible for all the Queen's horses other than the studs at Sandringham and Hampton Court, and the horses in training, and for all the cars in the Royal Mews.

"The horse side has grown enormously since I went there—I would not say that is entirely my fault, but it could be partly so." Apart from the carriage horses and the ceremonial driving horses in the Royal Mews, there are also Prince Philip's competition driving horses, Prince Charles's hunters and polo ponies, and the Queen's riding horses and stalking ponies, though these latter, bred and kept at Balmoral, do not come under his direct jurisdiction unless there is a problem.

As soon as he took up his appointment he took up driving, considering it to be part and parcel of his job: "I am not the sort of person to sit back and not know how to do it myself. I consider it to be my place to be able to drive the horses in the Royal Mews as well as my subordinates. It gives me greater authority and control, and a better understanding of their problems."

Sir John has great experience, of course, of the driven three-day event and when the first world championship was held in Munster in 1972, he drove the Queen's horses to win the individual silver medal and helped the team win the gold medal from Switzerland and Germany at their first attempt.

There are few equestrian sports in which he has not participated—the war came when he might have been race riding, but he did a little at Sandhurst and won his first point-to-point in a field of 32. Now he hunts in Leicestershire with the Quorn and the Cottesmore, as he has done for some 30 seasons.

Sport in brief

☐ John McEnroe, of the United States, is expected to be the top seed at the 1982 Belgian indoor tennis championship, which will take place from March 6 to 14 in Brussels. The organizers expect McEnroe to head a list of participants that includes the 1981 Belgian Open winner Jimmy Connors.

☐ The hurdler Edwin Moses, unbeaten in his event since 1977, was declared the top United States track and field athlete of the year yesterday by the Athletics Congress, the nation's governing body for amateur track. Moses, aged 26, has dominated world competition in the 400 metres hurdles, winning 71 successive races—not counting preliminary events.

For the record

American football

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Oakland Raiders 30, Pittsburgh Steelers 27.

American Conference

EASTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	F	A	PCT
Miami Dolphins	9	4	1	312	262	679
Buffalo Bills	9	5	1	286	250	643
New York Jets	8	5	1	313	271	607
New England P	2	12	0	291	328	143
Baltimore Colts	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	474	071

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	T	F	A	PCT
Cincinnati B	10	4	0	374	266	714
Pittsburgh S	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	307	429
Cleveland B	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	319	357
Houston Oilers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	359	571

WESTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	F	A	PCT
Denver Broncos	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	643
Kansas City Ch	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	571
San Diego Ch	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	571
Oakland Rdrs	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	500
Seattle Sea	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	357

National Conference

EASTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	F	A	PCT
Dallas Cowboys	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	254	786
Philadelphia E	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	200	643
New York Giants	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	257	500
St Louis Crdnls	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	350	500
Washington R	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	328	429

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	T	F	A	PCT
Tampa Bay B	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	227	571
Detroit Lions	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	295	500
Green Bay P	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	296	500
Minnesota V	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	314	050
Chicago Bears	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	294	286

WESTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	F	A	PCT
S F Pro 49ers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	227	786
Atlanta Falcons	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	304	500
Los Angeles R	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	306	357
New Orleans S	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	323	286

Curling

[illegible]

Gymnastics

[illegible]

Tennis

[illegible]

Ice skating

Why the Miss Rankin decision rankles

By John Hennessy

The figure skating committee of the National Skating Association will be under pressure at their meeting next week. There are rumbles of discontent about the decision not to take up the third place open to Britain in the womens' event of the world championships in Copenhagen in March.

Debbie Cottrill and Karen Wood have been chosen, naturally enough, since they are respectively the present British champion and last year's winner. But the case for Diana Rankin, who finished third last week in the national championship, has been rejected—so far. It is a decision that could and should be reversed.

The NSA decision was based on Miss Rankin's lack of international experience. But what better way to provide that than sending her as third string to Copenhagen, where her place in the scheme of things would be humble enough to leave her free of pressure and allow her to absorb the atmosphere and get to know her way around?

Otherwise the first chance open to her would be at St Gervais and Oberstdorf, low key tournaments, next summer. They offer her nothing like the same incentive to devote the time and dedication to perfecting her art. With snow blanketing much of the country, summer must seem a depressingly long way off.

There is another extramural reason, so to speak, for leaning in Miss Rankin's direction. She has dual citizenship, the family having been taken to Toronto by her father, a surgeon, in 1970 when she was six. They took Canadian nationality, which was virtually a requirement for staying in the country, but they retained the British connexion and Miss Rankin returned to this country six months ago in order to pursue her ambition of competing in Britain and for Britain. "I am", she declared at Richmond, "patriotically British".

Patriotism, regrettably, is regarded by some as old-fashioned, but it ought to be applauded and encouraged by a national sporting body and certainly one so rooted in tradition as the NSA.

All this would count for nothing, of course, if Miss Rankin had neither the class nor the potential to make the grade. In her short programme at Richmond she completed the required seven elements with a style and grace that would have well satisfied her teacher in Canada, the renowned Sheldon Galbraith, who guided Donald Jackson to the world title in his time and Vern Taylor to the first triple axel in his.

Indeed, she surpassed Miss Wood in the short and effectively killed off the Deeside skater's defence against Miss Cottrill. Admittedly, she created little impression on the final night of free skating, with two failed attempts at the double axel, which had been under smooth control in the short, and another at her one triple jump, the loop, but there were extenuating circumstances.

Miss Rankin came to this country with a series of hurdles to surmount in a short time, eight tests in all, finishing with the Inter-gold barely a month before the British championships. Under the wise guidance of Gladys Hogg at Queen's she accomplished all this and went on to secure third place at Richmond at her first attempt.

But one side effect of all this was that she had had little time to put together a free-skating programme for the British championships. She had not been nervous on the night, she said yesterday, because she enjoyed pedforming, "but I was not positive enough after slipping on my first attempt at the double axel". When I suggested that the ice had been in poor condition, with no resurfacing for 15 competitors, she diplomatically replied that perhaps it was not all that good.

Miss Rankin first knew of her non-selection by reading it in a newspaper, which seemed a dereliction of duty on the NSA's part. She was, of course, filled with disappointment, and wondered if there would be any point in perservering. Miss Hogg hid her dismay in order not to add to that of her pupil but she said yesterday: "It was quite a tragedy for Diana".

She is full of admiration for her young charge. Diana, she said, had worked conscientiously and made such strides since arriving that she was "a different person". She could not see how Miss Rankin could fail to profit from going to Copenhagen. Meantime it would be a huge incentive for her to get back to work.

Yachting

Viking arrives after detour in frozen south

From Barry Pickthall
Auckland, Dec 8

The Norwegian Swarm 57 Berge Viking, skippered by Olympic yachtsman Peder Lunde, became the 12th finisher of the second leg of the Round the World race, sponsored by Whitbread, today. Crossing the Auckland line at 7.02 pm local time Lunde said that the past 24 hours, in which winds had been blowing between 45 and 50 knots, had been the worst weather of the voyage. "The waves may have been bigger in the Southern Ocean, but we never had winds of this strength", he said.

Apart from a storm spinnaker that was blown out today just before the finish, the yacht suffered little damage during the 7,000 mile crossing. "We had a couple of knockdowns and weakened our mast slightly but, unfortunately, we chose a course too far south, which placed us on the wrong side of the depression", Lunde continued.

Sailing lower than 52 degrees south, conditions were so cold that water breaking over the decks froze instantly and the crew lost time sailing north into warmer weather.

Fishing

A £40,000 lucky strike for the young breed

By Conrad Voss Bark

The makers of Swan Vestas matches are to spend some £40,000 over the next three years to sponsor a national scheme for training schoolboys—and girls, too, if they are interested—to learn to fish; or as a handout puts it, "to become a new breed of young angler, skilled in fishing and subscribing to a code of conduct which reflects a good image of the sport and emphasises the need to care for the countryside".

A new breed of young angler would be as fascinating as a new breed of young fish but if one allows for the hyperbole of public relations the scheme itself should be admirable, if schools and schoolmasters cooperate. It is organized by the National Anglers' Council whose instructors will give practical tests on rivercraft, river safety, and the use of various kinds of coarse fishing tackle. After that there will be a written examination and the successful children will be presented with a certificate, a sew-on badge and a tackle box.

This, to carry the imagery a little further, is a new breed of sponsorship. It has a social purpose. Anything which persuades the schoolboy that he should learn fish properly and in safety is to be welcomed. Whether, from the commercial point of view, Swan Vestas are wise to spend so much money on it remains to be seen. How many millions of boxes of matches will they have to sell to break even?

What will happen if small boys, at present crouched over twig fires in the woods or smoking behind the bogs, abandon their consumer loyalties to Swan in adolescence and turn to lighters?

However, all seems to be well so far. A pilot scheme carried out at Bretton Woods School, Peterborough, has been reported a success. Fourteen out of 20 boys passed a 12-week course (presumably on one day a week) and the winner, David Taylor, aged 16, gained a remarkable 96 per cent in the practical and written examinations.

Patronage takes many forms. Other kinds of sponsorship in angling seem to have little or no social purpose. A bank, a petrol company, a brewery and a clothing manufacturer are among those who put up large sums to support various coarse fishing competitions.

Tennis

More support offered to Cumberland Club

The Cumberland Club's tennis tournament, one of Britain's traditional early season events, has just received its biggest sponsorship—£20,000 which safeguards its future for the next three years.

The agreement was announced yesterday by Denis Cassidy, the sales director of British Home Stores, who sponsored the tournament last year.

Next season's event which will be held at the club's Hampstead, London headquarters from April 26 to May 1 will have an unusual format in both men's and women's singles. Eight players in each event will be seeded to join eight winners from the main draw—a style of competition popular on the Continent but always opposed in Britain until now by the Lawn Tennis Association.

SYDNEY: World Challenge Junior Tournament: second round: R Hoegstedt (Sweden) beat B Burke, 6—2, 6—4; T Tulasne (France) beat T Benhabiles (France), 6—4, 6—4; M Mercir (Czechoslovakia) beat J Nystrom (Sweden), 6—4, 7—5; W Masur (Australia) beat D Lewis (New Zealand), 6—3, 6—4; E Linberger (Australia) beat S Zivojinovic (Yugoslavia), 7—6, 6—4; H Leconte (France) beat L Courteau (France), 6—1, 6—3; P Cash (Australia) beat I Harty (Australia), 6—0, 6—2; N Wilander (Sweden) beat J Canter (United States), 6—3, 6—1.

Gymnastics

Miss Cheeseborough joins professional circus

Susan Cheeseborough, the British gymnast, anounced yesterday that she is turning professional. Miss Cheeseborough, aged 22, who as British champion in 1978 and 1979 and apeared in two Olympic Games, is joining the world's first professional gymnastic circus and sets off next week on her first tour.

She said: "I have sent in my retirement letter to the British Gymnastic Federation but I haven't said anything publicly until today. I have achieved al that I can as an amateur and now I want to be in at the beginning of the new professional tour."

Miss Cheeseborough added "top gymnasts from all over the world will compete against each other. Hopefully this will be something like the pro tennis circuit and there should be plenty of prize money."

Miss Cheeseborough flew home yesterday with the rest of the British girls' gymnastic team, who have been appearing in the world team championships in New York.

Natalia Ilienko, the 17-year-old Russian who won a gold medal in the floor exercises at the recent world championships, is a strong favourite to collect more medals in the Coca-Cola International at Wembley this weekend.


Miss Cheeseborough : top money for top performer

Rhythmic style offers crowd special appeal

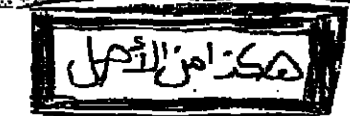
By Peter Aykroyd

Could modern rhythmic gymnastics, the graceful dance-based section of the sport, prove as popular in Britain in the future as the conventional Olympic gymnastics practised by women? This consideration occupied many devotees of modern rhythmic gymnastics after last weekend's national team championships at Coventry when 18 junior teams with ribbons and eight senior teams with balls competed.

To the pleasure of the large crowd, both junior and senior team titles went to the local club, Marsden, whose girls in striking black leotards are well on the way to creating new records for the sport. The Marsden juniors won their trophy for the fourth year running and the senior girls were victorious for the fourth time in five years.

The team aspect of the sport where moves with hand apparatus are choreographed and performed to music is obviously attractive to both participant and spectator.

RESULTS: Senior: 1, Marsden GC, Coventry, 33.60 pts; 2, Leeds Athletic Institute, 32.10; 3, Southampton AGC, 31.85; 4, Northampton MRGC, 31.50; 5, Solihull GC, 27.75; 6, Chesham and Amersham GC, 27.35. Junior: 1, Marsden GC, Coventry, 30.35; 2, Northampton MRGC, 29.45; 3, Leeds Athletic Institute, 28.85; 4, Southampton AGC, 28.55; 5, Phoenix GC, 27.85; 6, Aylesbury GC, 27.35.



Law Report December 9 1981

No share for ex-mistress

Kourkey v Lusher

Before Mr Justice Wood

[Judgment delivered December 8]

The claim of a plaintiff who was intermittently over 10 years the mistress of the deceased for a share of the estate under the provisions of the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975 failed in the Family Division. His Lordship held that the deceased had divested himself of financial responsibility for his mistress and had left her shortly before his death. The defendant was the deceased's widow.

Mr Douglas Day for the plaintiff; Mr M P Picard for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE WOOD said that the defendant and the deceased were married in 1939 and there were no children. After the deceased was demobilized in 1946 he took up practice as a chiropodist. In 1951 the defendant joined her husband in the practice and worked as a secretary, receptionist and book-keeper until his death in 1979. At first she worked full time but eventually worked only three days a week.

In 1953 the freehold of the surgery and the two flats above it became available and that was bought in the defendant's name with her own savings and her dowry. In 1957 the deceased and the defendant bought a house in Forest Hill, London in their joint names, which remained the matrimonial home.

They had two joint bank accounts, one private and one for the practice. The defendant collected all fees, which were paid mainly in cash. The deceased was given the cash and the defendant received wages. Almost all the household and surgery bills were paid by the deceased. Sufficient moneys appeared in the accounts to meet outstanding bills and the defendant was content to leave the handling of cash to the deceased. If she needed anything she would ask.

Their marriage was a happy and contented one. The deceased was a man beloved of all his patients. He was not endowed with strength of character and it was common ground that he hated arguments and would "run a mile to avoid a confrontation".

In about 1963 the plaintiff attended the deceased for treatment and became friendly with him. From time to time thereafter he visited her home. The plaintiff was now aged 52 and was a naturalized British citizen of Iraqi origin. In 1945 she married a fellow Iraqi and had two sons both of whom were educated and lived in this country.

On Bank Holiday 1969 the deceased left the matrimonial home and went to live with the plaintiff in Sydenham, London: He left his clothes and other belongings behind and those were kept and maintained by the defendant against his possible return. The defendant called upon the plaintiff on two occasions to try to break up the relationship but failed.

The plaintiff's husband also visited this country with the same purpose and was equally unsuccessful. The plaintiff took divorce proceedings and the decree absolute was granted on March 12, 1971. Although the defendant had failed to break up the relationship she clearly felt it could not last and settled down to maintain her position against his return.

She survived the initial shock, controlled her heartache and resolved that she had married "for better or for worse". She realized that if the sole source of their income, namely the practice, was to continue, any scandal should be avoided or at least minimized. So she ensured that the rents from the flats above the surgery were paid direct to her and she persuaded the deceased to increase her wages.

The practice carried on as though nothing untoward had occurred. The deceased continued to pay all outgoings on the matrimonial home and if the defendant wanted anything above her food and clothing the deceased would provide. They met every day at the surgery and went their separate ways at the end of the day. At weekends the deceased would visit the matrimonial home and do the mowing and other heavy work which his wife could not do.

The deceased lived with the plaintiff in a flat and undoubtedly contributed towards her maintenance. He is said to have encouraged her to obtain her divorce but he made every excuse to avoid divorcing his own wife. The first rift in the relationship arose in 1972 over a minor incident.

Thereafter the plaintiff visited France, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and returned in about April 1973. The deceased returned to the defendant early in February 1972 and rejoined the plaintiff in August 1973.

The incident which caused the rift in 1972 was a minor one and probabilities were that the relationship had deteriorated because the plaintiff was a very demanding woman and the deceased had failed to carry out her wishes. The evidence showed that the deceased made the first move towards a break. During the period apart the evidence did not show that the deceased had assumed responsibility for the maintenance of the plaintiff.

In early 1977 the plaintiff persuaded the deceased to purchase a property in their joint names as tenants in common. By a declaration of trust dated November 25, 1977 it was declared that in the event of a sale the proceeds should be divided between them in the proportion of 62 per cent and 38 per cent. The plaintiff and her son were not satisfied with the property and continually pressed the deceased to move into something bigger.

In April 1977 and again in July 1979 the deceased asked the defendant to go on holiday with him. Those were signs that he was thinking of divesting himself of financial responsibility for the plaintiff. During their relationship the plaintiff had discussed his possible death with the deceased who said he did not like making wills.

After his return from holiday with the defendant in July 1979 the deceased never returned to the plaintiff. He made an excuse not to see her and she had no communication from him. The deceased died on August 7, 1979 and the plaintiff heard of it through an announcement in *The Daily Telegraph*.

In considering the plaintiff's claim, it was necessary to decide whether she was a person "who immediately before the death of the deceased was being maintained wholly or in part by the deceased". If so, did the statutory provisions relating to intestacy operate so as not to make reasonable financial provision for the plaintiff mistress? If they did so operate, should the court in its discretion exercise its power to order some financial provision to be made?

On the first issue, the evidence showed that the deceased revolted against the suggestion that he should accept responsibility for a more substantial mortgage. The inference could be drawn that he wished to divest himself of financial responsibility of a capital nature. While there was a general responsibility for her maintenance before July 1979, after his return from holiday with the defendant, the deceased had abandoned that responsibility.

The plaintiff was therefore not within the definition required by section 1 (1) (e) of the 1975 Act. It was also clear that the plaintiff would always be able to seek support from her family. Her sons were both successful and if the deceased had not entered her life the likelihood was that by now she would be looking to them for support.

Taking into account all the circumstances and the relevant matters in section 3 of the 1975 Act, the plaintiff had not shown that the disposition of the deceased's estate by the law relating to intestacy was not such as to make reasonable financial provision for her.

Solicitor: Wood & Sons, Bromley: Chatterton & Co, Norwood.

End result of tax schemes

Inland Revenue Commissioners v Burmah Oil Co Ltd

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Scarman, Lord Roskill and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook

[Speeches delivered December 3]

In considering tax avoidance schemes the House of Lords was entitled to ignore intermediate circular book entries and to look at the end result.

The House allowed an appeal by the Inland Revenue Commissioners against the Burmah Oil Company Ltd from the First Division of the Court of Session (Lord Emslie, Lord President, Lord Cameron and Lord Stott) which had dismissed the revenue's appeal against the Special Commissioners' finding allowing Burmah's appeal against an assessment to corporation tax of about £3m.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern, QC, Lord Advocate, Mr R. Carnwath and Mr A. C. Hamilton (of the Scottish Bar) for the revenue; Mr D. C. Potter, QC, and Mr W. D. Prosser, QC (of the Scottish Bar) for Burmah.

LORD FRASER said the appeal raised two issues. The first was one of pure construction of the statutory provisions relating to capital gains tax, or corporation tax in this case. The second raised a question with wider implications as to whether certain transactions which on the face of them resulted in an allowable capital loss should be disregarded as artificial.

The second issue was raised for the first time before their Lordships in *W. T. Ramsay Ltd v Inland Revenue Commissioners* (*The Times* March 13; [1981] 2 WLR 449).

Burmah was at all material times the parent company of OMDR Holdings Ltd (Holdings), Manchester Oil Refinery Holdings Ltd (MORH) and Burmah Oil Trading Ltd (BOTL). Burmah owned 700,000 Holdings shares in their own name and one in the name of BOTL as their nominee. Holdings' share capital of 700,001 shares was represented by a debt of that amount owed by Holdings to Burmah.

In March 1969 Burmah transferred to Holdings a large amount of BP stock. In April 1971 that stock was transferred back to Burmah.

The market price of BP had fallen and there remained at the completion of that transaction an outstanding loan due by Holdings to Burmah of £159,299,999. As the two companies were members of the same group the transaction gave rise neither to chargeable gains nor to allowable losses.

Burmah explored with counsel the possibility of obtaining for corporation tax purposes an allowable loss by turning to account the situation which had arisen on the repurchase. The events which followed were carried out in accordance with a prearranged scheme, approved by Burmah's directors, to achieve that end.

On December 12, 1972 MORH obtained from Burmah a loan of £159,299,999, the exact amount of the debt owed by Holdings to Burmah. MORH then lent that amount to Holdings which in turn repaid the debt to Burmah. The money thus went round in a small circle and returned to its starting point on the same day. The effect was that instead of Burmah being a direct creditor of Holdings, MORH were interposed as creditor of Holdings and debtor of Burmah.

On December 18, Holdings made a rights issue to its existing shareholders. Burmah was allotted 700,000 shares for which they paid £159,600,000 and BOTL one share for £228. Holdings repaid to MORH the loan of £159,299,999 and MORH repaid that amount to Burmah. That sum thus went round the same circle as the money of December 12 but in the opposite direction.

The effect was to eliminate the train of debts and restore Holdings to solvency. Holdings were later dissolved.

The first question was whether Burmah were entitled, when computing the chargeable gain, to deduct in addition to the cost of acquiring the original shares the sum paid by way of subscription to the new shares.

The revenue contended that they were not because the new shares were acquired otherwise than by a bargain made at arms length. Burmah replied that the payment for the new shares was made as part of the reorganization of the capital of Holdings in the sense of the Finance Act 1965, *schedule 7, paragraph 4(1)* and that therefore there was no acquisition.

The commissioners and the court below both decided against the revenue and his Lordship had no doubt they were right on the construction of the relevant statutes.

It became necessary to consider the second issue in the light of the principles stated by the House in the *Ramsay* case.

It was stated on behalf of Burmah that in *Ramsay* the taxpayers had been provided with a preconceived and ready-made plan whereas in the present case the plan, although preconceived, was specially made for Burmah. But that difference could not affect the legal position.

It was clear the events of December 18 formed part of a single scheme. No doubt the directors could have chosen, even at that stage, to abandon the scheme but the reality was that the decision had already been taken to carry it through to completion and that was unquestionably the intention of the directors in this case just as it was the intention of all parties concerned in *Ramsay* and in *Chinn v Hochstrasser* (*The Times*, December 12, 1980; [1981] 2 WLR 14).

Lord Wilberforce said in *Ramsey* it was "candidly, if inevitably, admitted that the whole and only purpose of each scheme was the avoidance of tax". The same admission was made here and the same adverbs applied.

But the fact that the purpose *of the scheme was tax avoidance* did not carry any implication that it was in any way reprehensible or other than perfectly honest and respectable. It was duty of Burmah's directors to take such lawful steps as were open to them to minimise the impact of tax on the company's profits and in carrying out the scheme they acted upon professional advice from reputable sources. If the advice in that regrettably intricate region of law turned out to be erroneous, they were not to be criticized on that account.

The question was whether the scheme when completely carried out did or did not result in a loss such as the legislation dealt with as a real loss. In his Lordship's opinion it did not.

Holdings were left with a debt owing to Burmah after selling the BP shares back. That was a simple debt, not a debt on a security therefore no allowable loss could accrue to Burmah on the disposal of the debt. The purpose of the scheme was to convert that non-allowable loss into a loss that would be allowable for tax purposes.

In considering the scheme, it seemed to his Lordship immaterial whether the events of December 12 were included.

On December 18 Burmah paid *£159,600,000 to Holdings for* 700,000 new shares in Holdings. Most of that money was immediately passed to MORH and by MORH to Burmah. Holdings were wound up and Burmah's shares in Holdings were thus destroyed.

Burmah suffered no real loss because they got back their money. Moreover they still had the BP shares which they could have realized on the open market at a loss on their original purchase price.

If the argument for Burmah had been right it would have been one more case in which the taxpayer had achieved the apparently magic result of creating a tax loss that was not a real loss.

In his Lordship's opinion they had not achieved that result.

LORD DIPLOCK said it would be disingenuous to suggest, and dangerous on the part of those who advised on elaborate tax-*avoidance schemes to assume* that *Ramsay's* case did not mark a significant change in the approach adopted by the House in its judicial role to a pre-ordained series of transactions, whether or not they included the achievement of a legitimate commercial end, into which there were inserted steps that had no commercial purpose apart from the avoidance of a liability to tax which in the absence of those particular steps would have been payable.

The difference was in approach. It did not necessitate the *overruling* of any earlier decisions of the House but it did *involve recognising that* Lord Tomlin's oft quoted dictum in *IRC v Duke of Westminster* ([1936] AC 1, 19) "Every man is entitled if he can to order his affairs so as that the tax attaching under the appropriate Acts is less than it otherwise would be" told little or nothing as to what methods of ordering one's tax affairs would be recognized by the courts as effective to lessen the tax that would attach to them if business transactions were conducted in a straightforward way.

The *Duke of Westminister's* case was about a simple transaction entered into between two real persons each with a mind of his own. The kinds of tax-avoidance schemes that had occupied the attention of the courts in recent years, however, involved interconnected transactions between artificial persons, *limited companies*, without minds of their own but directed by a single master mind.

LORD SCARMAN, agreeing, said it was of the utmost importance that the business community and their advisers should appreciate that *Ramsay's* case marked a significant change in the approach adopted by the House in its judicial role towards tax avoidance schemes.

Second, it was now crucial when considering any such scheme to take the analysis far enough to determine where the profit, gain or loss was really to be found. The true position was that owing to a fall in value of BP shares Burmah suffered a real but unrealised loss. In the language of capital gains taxation there was never a disposal of the real asset, the BP shares, although there was a disposal on liquidation of the nominal asset, Burmah's share holding in Holdings.

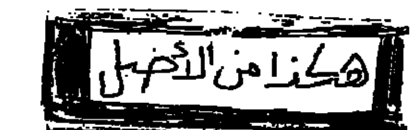
Lord Roskill and Lord Brandon agreed.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Allen & Overy for Miller Thompson Henderson & Co, Glasgow and Laing & Motherwell, Edinburgh.

Tape recorders

The Practice Direction giving guidance as to the unofficial use of tape recorders in court (*The Times, November 21*) has been applied also to the county courts by direction of the Lord Chancellor pursuant to his powers under Order 48 rule 1(2) of the County Court Rules.

La crème de la crème



Recruitment Opportunities

Salerooms and Antiques

are featured every

TUESDAY

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Residential property by Baron Phillips

Tackling the problem of housing land

For the first time planners and housebuilders had joined forces at a regional level to assess land availability and to discuss common problems, Mr Lynn Wilson, president of the House-Builders Federation, said last week when the Standing Conference on London and the South-East finally reported its findings.

What should have been a commonsense approach to the whole problem of housing and available land had been a long time coming. The insistence of the present Government to develop land registers had aided the collaboration of builders and planners, but this cooperation was still in its infancy.

The federation is also a cosponsor of a much wider land availability study, the preliminary findings of which should have been published by now but have been delayed until the new year.

One main conclusion of the standing conference study was that the South-East of England has enough identified housing land for the next five years to build 270,000 dwellings. Although this may sound a great many houses, the figure only slightly exceeds the Structure Plan level of 243,000 dwellings, and the current house building performance is poor compared with the boom years of the mid-1960's and the early 1970's.

Latest figures from the Department of the Environment indicate that the number of new private sector housestarts will exceed original industry forecasts. But this grain of optimism has to be measured against the appalling performance last year when fewer than 100,000 houses were started, the lowest figure for almost 30 years, the study says.



British rail is prepared to discuss offers for its Culham Station building in Oxfordshire. Dating back to 1844 it is a Tudor Gothic style single-storey building said to have been designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel. There is one drawback, trains continue to call at Culham Station. Sympathetic purchasers should contact BR's Property Board, Pentonville Road, London N1,

Against this background it appears the South-East has enough land for its housing needs. nearly all house starts will be private sector, because there has been a serious decline in public housebuilding. Any uplift in the economy and a more general return of confidence in the housing market could quickly turn ample supply to a shortage.

Authors of the study admit they will have to monitor progress of the take-up of the identified land and continue to search for new sources. But despite the overall picture looking healthy they note that some districts in Buckinghamshire, Kent, Surrey and Bedfordshire have a shortfall of housing land. The biggest black spot is Greater London, where starts have slumped to a quarter of the figure a decade ago.

The situation in London is further exacerbated by the reluctance of a number of inner city authorities to either identify or sell land which is surplus to their needs. It has become clear that virtually the only way life can be breathed into our inner cities is through private sector investment.

Housebuilders recognise they have a clear role to play in any urban regeneration programme, but within the current ecomomic context are obviously reluctant to do so. At least they need the support of local authorities in making land available.

Another major factor emerging from the study is that a higher proportion of investment will have to be made by housebuilders if much of the identified land is to be developed. Local authorities do not have the cash to install the necessary infrastructure, such as drainage, roads and services.

This would mean higher prices for the housebuyer. The more money a builder has to pump into a site, the higher his unit costs, and consequently he has to charge more.

The study notes that there will be greater emphasis on starter homes and equity sharing schemes fulfilling the needs of the first generation homebuyer. It adds, however: "The limitation with all such schemes is that, while London's housing problems are already very great, the schemes are still at an early stage and are unlikely to have a marked effect on London's housing stock for several years."

A delightful and secluded Cotswold stone period house is being offered for sale through Bernard Thorpe and Partners. Old Overtown House at Cranham, dating back to 1660, is eight miles from Cheltenham. The price is about £150,000.

The house comprises three reception rooms, a galleried studio, a main bedroom with en suite bathroom, four further bedrooms and another bathroom. Also included is a two-bedroom cottage with three other rooms, an old baking oven and a timber beamed open fireplace.

One of the largest residential deals in recent months was the sale of St Columba's Hospital in Hampstead, north-west London. It covers about 7.5 acres of land in one of London's most expensive residential areas, and a Jersey company has paid £2.6m for the site and buildings.

Glentree Estates, the selling agents, in conjunction with Weatherall Green and Smith, say the company has bought the hospital for development as private residences.

LEGAL NOTICES

NO. 003749 OF 1981

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION. IN THE MATTER OF ENTERPRISE TRUST LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a petition was on the 30th November 1981 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice …

LEGAL NOTICES

LYNDENPOINT Limited

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Thursday, the 17th day of December, 1981 …

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

OLD BAILEY, EC4

PUBLIC NOTICES

PASTORAL MEASURE 1968

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

IN PARLIAMENT
SESSION 1981-82 BRITISH TRANSPORT DOCKS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application is being made to Parliament in the present Session by the British Transport Docks Board (hereinafter referred to as "the Board") for leave to introduce a Bill under the above name or short title for purposes of which the following is a concise summary:

1. Construction of the following works:— …

COMMERCIAL SERVICES

OVERSEAS PROPERTIES

NOTICE

"UPHOLD ME according unto Thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope."—Psalm 119:116.

BIRTHS

BOSANQUET.—On 5th December at St. Teresa's, Wimbledon, to Mary-Rose and Nicholas, twin girls Hermione and Davina, sisters to Emma and more playmates for Sochimishuitom.

BUTTERFIELD.—On December 7th, at Pembury Hospital, to Nat and Linda—a son.

CLARK.—On 1st December, 1981, at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff, to Lynda (nee Hoole) and Per—a son (Carl Thomas).

COLLINS.—On December 7th to Susan (nee Nicoll) and Paul—a son, a brother for Annabel.

COOPER.—On October 19th at Edgware General Hospital to Judith and Philip, a son, (Edward Anthony).

DOLLARD.—On 7th December, 1981, at St Teresa's, Wimbledon, to Caroline and Christopher—a son.

FITZGERALD.—On 3rd December, to Presley (nee Baxendale) and Richard—a daughter.

HAMLYN.—On 4th December, to Robin and Susan—a daughter (Olivia Alice).

JOHNSON.—On November 24th, 1981, to Rosie (nee Coombe) and Allan, of Tilford, Surrey—a son (Murray William Howie).

KNIGHTS.—On 27th November, 1981, to Lorna (nee Forbes) and Guy—a daughter (Amy May), a sister for Lucy.

MOORE.—on December 3rd in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, to Elizabeth (nee Ware) and Michael—a son (John Raymond Hone).

OLIVER.—On 4th December to Anne (nee Belcher) and Graham—a son (Nicholas), brother for Sally.

PAGE.—On 7th December, 1981, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Deborah and Robert, a son, (Jonathan William), a brother for Oliver.

SAINSBURY.—On 30th November, 1981, to Harriet and Richard—a son (William).

SEHMER.—On December 8th, to Karin (nee Englehart) and James—a second son (Luke Michael).

SHEPHERD.—On December 6th Kenneth—a son (James Julian). Kenneth—a son, James Julian.

TAILYOUR.—On 26th November, to Amanda and William, in Connecticut—a son (Alexander William Hastings), a brother for Ian and Lillian.

TOSE.—On December 8th, to Jennifer and Philip—a daughter (Vanessa Maria) in Hongkong.

WHEAT.—On 7th December, to Jan and Martin—a daughter (Jennifer Rachel).

WORSLEY.—On 7th December in Alderney to Carolyn (nee Gillott) and Charlie—a daughter (Sarah Jane), a sister for Charles.

BIRTHDAYS

MARK THACKER. Happy 21st Birthday. Lots of love, Mum, Dad and Rhys.

PET.—Happy birthday, love. Advancing youth suits you. Me too. O77.

MARRIAGE

DAVENPORT : SHERWOOD-JONES.—On Saturday, November 28, at St Mary's Church, Addington Village, Surrey, Andrew Kevin Sefton, only son of Mr and Mrs M. Davenport of Sale, Cheshire, to Anne, daughter of the late Rt Rev N. Sherwood-Jones, Bishop in Northern Nigeria and doctor D. M. Hobson, of Addington Village, Surrey.

DEATHS

BADGETT, DR KEITH.—On December 4th at home, Beaufort House, Ham, Richmond, Surrey. Beloved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral private. No flowers. Donations if desired to the National Trust. Memorial service on Saturday, 19th December at 11.30 a.m., St. Peter's Church, Petersham.

BERCOVICI.—On November 9th, Leon, Chevalier de l'Ordre de Leopold, beloved husband of Marjorie and father of Mary and Lucy. In his 91st year at his home, 127 Avenue Winston Churchill, Brussels.

BROWNE.—On December 6th, 1981, Hugh Hamilton Roe, aged 79, of Beaconsfield, Bucks. Very dear husband of Joan, and much loved father and grandfather. Service at Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham, on Wednesday, December 9th at 4 p.m. Family flowers only but donations in lieu.

BURGESS, JAMES THOMAS ASHLEY.—On December 5, 1981, aged 18 years. Dearly beloved son of Ashley and Gillian, brother of Victoria Sarah, of Roxby Manor, Thornton Dale, Pickering. Service at All Saints' Church, Thornton Dale, on Thursday, December 10, at 2 pm.

CASKEY.—On December 4, in Cincinnati Professor John Langdon Caskey, husband of Miriam Ervin Caskey.

CHANCE.—On December 8th, 1981, at The Avonmore Nursing Home, Aldwick, Sussex in her 91st year, Norah, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Selby Chance of Crofton Hall, Thursby, Cumbria. Much loved aunt and great aunt. Cremation at Chichester Crematorium, 12.30 p.m., Tuesday, December 15th.

DE GREY.—On December 6, 1981, suddenly at home, Georgina Sophia, aged 2 years and 2 months, daughter of Anthony and Miranda. Funeral at St Mary's, Brampton, Huntingdon, on Friday, December 11, at 12.30 pm. No flowers please but donations to St Thomas' Charitable Trust/Paediatric Research Fund, c/o Prof J. W. Scopes, Paediatric Unit, St Thomas' Hospital, London SE1.

DOBELL.—On December 8, 1981, at her home, 5 St Peters Close, Heswall (formerly of Bromerton, Meols Drive, West Kirby), aged 88, Nora May, widow of George Galloway. Service and cremation at Landican Crematorium, on Monday, December 14, at 11 am. Any flowers please, may be sent to the T. A. Ball Funeral Service, Woodchurch Road, Birkenhead.

FAULCONER.—On December 6th, 1981, at Brighton, Humfrey Patrick, all enquiries to S. E. Skinner and Sons, 145 Lewes Road, Brighton. Tel: 0273 607346.

FELL.—On November 28, in Wellington, New Zealand, William Richmond, CMG, CBE, DSC, Captain RN, dearly loved husband of Jean. After a long and active life he will be remembered by his sons John and Michael, his grandchildren and great grandchildren with much affection.

GRAY.—On 6th December, 1981, at Brompton Hospital, London, Henry Marshall (Harry), 173 Galashiels Road, Stow, Selkirkshire and formerly "Paper" Gray of Ulu Remis estate, Layang Layang, Johore, Malaya. Beloved husband of Louise and a loving father.

HARROD.—On December 5, suddenly, Beatrice, beloved wife of the late Frank Harrod, CBE, much loved and loving mother and grandmother. Funeral service at St Anselms Church, Hatch End, at 1.30 pm on Friday, December 11, followed by private cremation. Family flowers but donations if wished to Save the Children Fund, c/o T. A. Ellement, 21 Bridge St, Pinner.

HARVEY MOORE.—On December 6th in Harpenden Memorial Hospital, Maud Kirkdale, widow of William Harvey Moore, Q.C., and mother of Joan, Cynthia, Margaret and Anne, Grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral service at Golders Green Crematorium, 3.15 on Wednesday, 9th December.

HELMORE.—On December 6, at Orchard Cottage, Beeley, peacefully in her sleep, Margery Phyllis Helmore, MA, aged 76, former Headmistress of Homelands Grammar School for Girls, Derby. Much loved sister of Leon and Molly and beloved friend of many. Funeral at St Anne's Church, Beeley, on Friday, December 11, followed by private cremation.

HILL.—On December 7, peacefully at his home, Canon Rowland Edward Hill, of 87 Hampton Dene Road, Hereford. Dearly loved husband of the late Elizabeth Hill, and father of David, Nigel, Jamie and Andrew. Cremation private. No flowers, but donations if desired to Friends of Cirencester Church, c/o Lloyds Bank, Cirencester, Glos. Memorial service at Cirencester Parish Church, on Saturday, January 9, at 2.30 pm.

MACFIE.—Suddenly on 7th December, 1981, Squadron-Leader Colin Hamilton Macfie, DFC, Gardner's Cottage, Attadale, Strathcarron, beloved husband of the late Beatrice Mary Hogg and dear father of Jenny, Alison and Shaun. Enquiries to Messrs John Fraser and Son, Funeral Directors, Inverness. Telephone 0463 33366.

MOXEY, EDNA L. K.—On 6th December at her home, 36 Everest Road, Cheltenham, dear sister to May and loving friend for 32 years to Frieda Wallis. Funeral service Cheltenham Crematorium, Friday, 11th December at 10.30 a.m. Floral tributes to W. S. Trenhaile, 174 Bath Road, Cheltenham.

NEWMAN, BETTY (Margaret Elizabeth Mcrae), peacefully at Toronto, on Saturday, December 5, 1981. Greatly loved wife of Sydney, mother of Deirdre, grandmother of Jennifer and Gillian.

OLIVER.—On 4th December, suddenly, Alan Edward, dearly loved husband of Rhoda, father of Cherry, Philip and Giles. Private funeral. Memorial service early in the New Year.

POWELL.—On December 8, 1981, peacefully in hospital, after a long illness most courageously borne, Lt.Col. Atherton George Hollins Powell, late of the Royal Welch Fusiliers and of the Parachute Regiment. Beloved husband of Jacqueline and [...]

RATTRAY-TAYLOR.—On December 7th, 1981, Gordon, of The Hall, Freshford, in a Bath hospital, a loved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral service at St Peter's Church, Freshford, on Thursday, 10th December, at 2.45 p.m. Flowers to H S Bowyer & Son Ltd, Bradford-on-Avon.

RHODES.—On 4th December, 1981, suddenly, in hospital, Angela Rosemary (nee Bullock), beloved daughter of Dr R N Bullock and mother of Vanessa, Miranda and Sarah. Funeral service at Ealing Abbey at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 14th December, followed by cremation at 12.30 at Mortlake Crematorium. Flowers to W S Bond Ltd, 19 Bond St, Ealing, W.5. Tel.: 01-567 0422.

TREVES.—On 4th December, 1981, peacefully in hospital, Armand Ernest Samuel, aged 94 years, formerly of The Closes, Kidlington. Funeral service will take place on Friday the 11th of December at Oxford Crematorium at 12 noon. Donations if desired may be sent to The Secretary, League of Friends, Radcliffe Infirmary, Woodstock Road, Oxford.

TURVILLE-PETRE, BRENDAN.—Suddenly on the 6th December. Funeral Aylsham Parish Church, Norfolk on 10th December at 12.30 p.m. Enquiries to R. V. Mullett, Oxford 62755. No flowers by request.

WALTERS.—On December 7, 1981, peacefully at his home Arthur Paul Goth Walters, devoted husband of Doris, much loved father of Barbara, Jennifer and John, and an adored grandfather. Private funeral. Memorial service at St Mary's Church, East Preston, West Sussex, at 1 pm. on Thursday, December 17.

WATKINS.—On December 8th, at Burrswood, Dorothy Watkins, of 35 St Edith's Road, Kemsing. Widow of the Reverend Arthur Watkins, and dear mother of Christopher. Funeral service at Burrswood, Groombridge, Kent, on Tuesday, December 15th, at 2 p.m. Family flowers only or donation to the Dorothy Kerin Trust.

WILLIAMS.—On December 7th, peacefully at home after a short but happy life, Katy Louise, much loved daughter of Toni and Michael, sister of Natalie and James.

WILSON.—On December 7th at Cheltenham General Hospital, following an accident out shooting, John Denis (Jackie), younger surviving son of the late Lt. Col. Denis Daly Wilson, M.C., and Mary Henrietta Wilson of The Manor, Aston-Somerville, Broadway, Worcestershire. Beloved husband of Didi and father of Darcy and Anthony. The funeral will take place at The Church of St. Mary, Aston-Somerville, on Saturday, 12th December for family and village only at 2.30 p.m. No flowers. No mourning. Donations if desired to The Treasurer of the P.C.C. of Aston-Somerville for St. Mary's Church or to Cheltenham Hospital Intensive Care Trust. There will be a service of Thanksgiving on a date to be announced later.

WINANT.—On December 8, at 3 Upper Phillimore Gardens, Kensington, W8, Ursula Rachel, aged 57, dearest daughter of Winifred G. R. Winant, and beloved sister of Hilary Glidewell and Valerie Goodhart, and much loved aunt. Funeral service at St Martin-in-the-Fields, at 1.45 pm. on Wednesday, December 16. Family flowers only. Cremation private.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

PAWLIKOWSKA.—A Requiem Mass in Thanksgiving for the life of Madame Pawlikowska, distinguished portrait artist, will be celebrated at The Church of The Holy Rosary, Marylebone Road, NW1, on Saturday, December 19, 1981, at 12 noon.

IN MEMORIAM

du VIVIER.—In memory of Major Paul Edward du Vivier, R.E., only son of Mrs Phyllis Carlish and the late Joseph Evariste du Vivier.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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AS SOLICITORS for Mrs Anita Ward, formerly of London and presently residing in Montreal, Canada, we seek information as to the whereabouts of Ian William George Ward, born in or about London in 1939. Would he or anyone having knowledge of his whereabouts please communicate with: Mr. R. C. T. Harris, Q.C., 505 Dorchester Blvd. West, Fourth Floor, Montreal, Quebec H2Z 1A8.

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BEILSCHMIDT, GOTLOB JOSIAH LOUIS BEILSCHMIDT otherwise JOSIAH LOUIS BEILSCHMIDT late of Shepherds Way, Rabley Heath, Welwyn, Hertfordshire, died at Stevenage, Hertfordshire, on 11th March 1981 (Estate about £60,000).

FLETCHER SAMUEL FLETCHER late of 91 Hayter Road, London SW2, died there on 23rd July 1980 (Estate about £16,500).

The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), 12 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LJ, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

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W2.—Superb Family house to let 5 beds, 3 baths, large reception, dining room, garden. £375 p.w. 1 year company let. Bradburys Residential Lettings. 01-734 [...]

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MARYLEBONE, W.1.—House in quiet mews, close to Baker Street and Regents Park. Large reception room with feature brick fireplace, well fitted kitchen with dining area. Three good size bedrooms, 1½ bathrooms. Rent £250 a week. George Knight & Partners, 637 7026.

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W.1.—Super luxury apartment in prestigious purpose built block. Colour TV. Tel.: Porter. 606 4711 day, 289 5482 eves.

W.8.—Comfortable, 2 bedroom mansion flat. £100 p.w. 221 4142.

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W.11.—Ground floor flat, 1 bed, sitting room with kitchen area, 1 bath. Suit couple. £50 p.w. 227 3894.

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CORNWALL GARDENS, S.W.7.—Furnished 2-bedroom flat, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, entryphone. £90 p.w. 01-937 1883 after 6.30 p.m.

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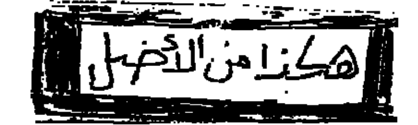
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NOTICE



Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

.30 **News After Noon** The latest world news th Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart. 12.57 egional news (London and SE only: Financial sport and news headlines) **1.00 Pebble Mill** at ne Katherine Whitehorn of The Observer, in the st of her series on cookery hints, has some ideas r the left over turkey. **1.45 Fingerbobs** A See-aw programme for the very young presented by ick Jones (r) **2.00 When the Bough Breaks** The rst of eight programmes for parents who think ey mistreat their children. Introduced by John haw (r) 2.12 Closedown **3.15 Songs of Praise** om the bomb-damaged First Presbyterian Church, iaburn, introduced by Seamus McKee (shown last unday at 6.40 pm) 3.53 Regional news (not ondon).

3.55 **Play School** For the under fives (shown earlier on BBC 2).

4.20 **Cartoon:** Touché Turtle in Catch as Catch Can (r).

4.25 **Jackanory** Maureen Lipman with part three of The Mona Lisa Mystery by Pat Hutchins.

4.40 **The Record Breakers** introduced by Roy Castle and Norris McWhirter.

5.05 **John Craven's Newsround.**

5.10 **Codename Icarus.** Part two and Andy becomes suspicious of the Icarus Foundation.

5.40 **News** with Richard Baker. 6.00 Regional news magazines. 6.25 Nationwide.

6.50 **Film: The Pride and the Passion** (1957) starring Cary Grant, Sophia Loren and Frank Sinatra. Based on the C. S. Forester novel, The Gun, the story concerns the efforts of a small number of guerrillas determined to halt Napoleon's advance into Spain. Their objective is the heavily defended town of Avila which they plan to take with the help of the largest gun ever made and recently abandoned by the Spanish army. The only difficulty is that it is lying hundreds of miles away across hostile terrain.

9.00 **Party Political Broadcast** on behalf of the Conservatives.

9.05 **News** with John Humphreys.

9.30 **Sports Review of 1981.** Highlights of the year's sporting achievements re-lived at BBC Television Centre by an audience of four hundred sports personalities. The climax will be the viewers' Sports Personality of the Year award presented by Group Captain Sir Douglas Bader. In addition there are two other awards — one for the Team of the Year and one for the Outstanding Overseas Personality. The programme presenters are Frank Bough, Harry Carpenter, David Coleman and Jimmy Hill.

10.50 **Parkinson.** His guests tonight are Peter Bull, Isaac Stern and Gerald Durrell.

11.50 **News** headlines and weather.

BBC 1 Variations: Cymru/Wales 12.57 pm-1.00 News of Wales. 5.10-5.40 Codename Icarus. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 6.50-7.15 Heddiw. 7.15-7.45 Plant Y Paith (5). 7.45-8.10 Angels. 8.10-9.00 The Invincible Spirit. 11.50 News and weather. Scotland 12.55 pm-1.00 The Sottish News. 6.00-6.25 Reporting Scotland. 11.50News and weather. Northern Ireland 12.57 pm-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 6.00-6.25 Scene around Six. 11.50 News and weather. England 6.00 pm-6.25 Regional Magazines. 11.55 Close.

BBC 2

10.20 Gharbar. A magazine programme with advice on matters of interest for Asian women. 10.45 Closedown. **11.00 Play School.** For the under fives presented by Floella Benjamin and Chris Tranchell. The guest storyteller is Rachel Hurst and she reads Eric Hill's Spot's First Walk. 11.25 Closedown. **3.55 One Man and His Dog** introduced by Phil Drabble with Eric Halsall. The second semifinal of the International Sheepdog Championship pits Wyn Edwards of Wales against David Brady of Northern Ireland. In addition there is another heat in the Brace Championship in which the competitors have to control two dogs at the same time. (r)

4.35 **Rowena Wilkinson** (harp) plays Glinka variations on a theme by Mozart.

4.40 **Vikings!** Part six and Magnus Magnusson traces the history of the Viking kingdoms of Dublin and York. (r)

5.10 **The Flying Boats.** Their role during World War Two. (r)

5.40 **Daredevils of the Red Circle*** Episode three and the evil master criminal has our heroes trapped in a sealed garage into which he is pumping poisonous gas.

6.00 **Grange Hill.** (r)

6.25 **Life on Earth.** The first amphibians. (r)

7.20 **News** with subtitles.

7.25 **Edwin Lutyens Master Architect.** A portrait of the man and his work by Patrick Nuttgens.

8.15 **Strangeways.** A look at C1 landing where sex offenders are segregated from the rest of the prisoners. (r)

9.00 **M*A*S*H.** Hawkeye and Hunnicutt have 20 minutes in which to perform an operation that will save a young soldier's life.

9.25 **The Borgias.** Cesare and the rest of the family's influence is virtually non-existent once the Pope dies. When this happens Cesare is quickly confronted by his enemies.

10.20 **Grapevine.** Jeni Barnett talks to Ted Wilkins about how a community can recover after it has experienced rioting.

10.50 **Party Political Broadcast** on behalf of the Conservatives.

10.55 **Newsnight.** The latest world news plus an informed analysis of one of the day's major stories. Ends at 11.45.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 Cartoon: starring Magilla Gorilla **9.50 Bailey's Bird.** Adventures of a freelance pilot (r) **10.15 The History Makers.** Life during Roman times **10.40 Survival.** Animal and human crowd behaviour (r) **11.05 Welcome Back, Kotter.** High school comedy **11.30 The Further Adventures of Oliver Twist.** Mr Beadle enters his life again (r) **12.00 The Munch Bunch.** Adventures of animated vegetables **12.10 Rainbow.** Learning with puppets **12.30 About Britain.** With Robert Dougall in the Hebrides **1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News 1.30 Armchair Thriller: High Tide.** Episode four and Curtis's life is in danger (r) **2.00 After Noon Plus** assesses the Year of the Disabled **2.45 More British than the British.** The Falkland Islands (r) **3.30 Bugs Bunny** cartoon **3.45 Emmerdale Farm** (r)

4.15 **Cartoon:** Punch Trunk.

4.20 **Madabout.** The programme about hobbies introduced by Michael Bentine.

4.45 **Fanfare for Young Musicians.** Five groups of early teenaged instrumentalists compete for the last place in next week's final.

5.15 **Coronation Street Birthday Special.** The Silver Jubilee celebrations are in jeopardy (r).

5.45 **News**

6.00 **Thames News.**

6.25 **Help!** Margaret Hollis demonstrates, with the help of Viv Taylor Gee, some people-lifting techniques.

6.35 **Crossroads.** It's a hectic life for David Hunter.

7.00 **This is Your Life.** Eamonn Andrews surprises another celebrity.

7.30 **Coronation Street.** An important choice must be made by Eunice Gee.

8.00 **London Night Out.** The first of a new series of variety shows. Topping the bill tonight is Cilla Black with Vince Hill.

9.00 **Pitman.** A documentary following the progress of the election campaign in the contest to find the successor to Joe Gormley as President of the National Union of Mineworkers.

10.00 **Party Political Broadcast** on behalf of the Conservatives.

10.05 **News**

10.35 **Midweek Sports Special** presented by Brian Moore and Elton Welsby. There are highlights from the Williams and Glyn Ice Spectacular featuring John Curry, Robin Cousins, Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean. Brian Moore brings the best of the action from one of tonight's EUFA Cup matches involving a British club.

12.05 **Barney Miller.** Police captain Miller's men appear to be more interested in their personal problems than they are to their work. Detective Harris is worried about getting permission to name names in his book about the 12th Precinct and Wojo's new parrot suddenly becomes a deceased parrot.

12.30 **Close** with Lord Soper examining one of his favourite hymns.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Midweek: Noel Edmonds.
10.00 News.
10.02 Gardeners' Question Time visits the Maidstone and District Allotment and Gardens Association.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "The Fall" by Angela Huth.
11.00 News.
11.05 Baker's Dozen.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 A Walk in the Dark: A serial in five parts by Chris Boucher. With Patrick Mower and Helen Atkinson Wood (Part 3).
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: "Madam's Good Girl" by Jack Klaff.
3.50 The Cities of the Plain: Robert Fox visits four historically great cities of northern Italy (2) Ferrara.
4.00 Priestland's Progress: Gerald Priestland offers a plain man's guide to the Christian faith (12) "Some Hope!".†
4.45 Story Time: "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" by Charles Dickens (13).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 The Senior Partner (series) Andrew Cruickshank in "Saints and Sinners"
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Checkpoint.
7.45 The Reith Lectures 1981: "The Two-edged Sword". Six talks by Professor Laurence Martin, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, on armed force in the modern world (5) Not for the Sake of Their Blue Eyes.
8.15 Prefaces to Shakespeare: Frances de la Tour considers "A Midsummer Night's Dream", to be shown on BBC 2's television Shakespeare series on Sunday.
8.45 Analysis: "Dr Fitzgerald's Crusade": Robert Kee reports on the Irish Prime Minister's new aproach in the Republic.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Quote... Unquote: Nigel Rees invites a team to identify quotations and share their favourites.†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Orchid Trilogy" by Jocelyn Brooke (2).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News and Weather.
VHF: 6.25 am Weather. 10.30 Listen with Mother. 11.00 For Schools. 2.00 pm For Schools. 5.50 PM (continued). 11.00 Study on 4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather
7.00 News
7.05 Your Midweek Choice† Record requests: Weber, Mozart, Galuppi
8.00 News
8.05 Your Midweek Choice (continued) Mendelssohn, Strauss, Beethoven, Bruch
9.00 News
9.05 This Week's Composers † Arne and Boyce; records
10.00 Russian Violin Music† Violin and Piano recital: Kabalevsky, Khachaturian, Shostakovich, Rachmaninov, Glazunov, Spolianski, Godowsky arr. Heifetz, Glazunov arr. Kreisler
10.40 A Newly-Restored Willis Organ† Recital in Huddersfield Town Hall: Franck, Paul Drayton
11.15 Ildebrando Pizzetti† Choral music
11.25 BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra† Concert: Ravel, Saint-Saens, Franck
1.00 News
1.05 Concert Hall†: Vocal and instrumental recital by the Accademia Arcadiana, direct from Broadcasting House, London: Handel Corelli, Alessandro Scarlatti
2.05 Music Weekly†
2.55 Mozart and Dvorak† String Quartet recital
4.00 Choral Evensong† from Canterbury Cathedral
4.55 News
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure†
7.00 Medium and Mesage: "The First Curriculum". Professor James Carey of the University of Illinois at Urbana considers American research on the effects of television watching
7.30 Ionych. A short story by Anton Chekov
8.00 BBC Symphony Orchestra† Concert direct from the Royal Festival Hall, London. Part 1: Mozart, Roussel
8.50 Six Continents
9.10 Concert† Part 2: Rachmaninov, Varese
10.15 Unfan Letters by Francis King. Readings of less than enthusiastic letters received by writer Francis King
10.30 Edmund Rubbra† Choral and solo harp recital
11.00 News
11.05 Bruch, arr. Bruch† Kol Nidrei, for violin and orchestra; record
Medium Frequency/Medium Wave as vhf above except: 7.05-11.15am Cricket: Second Test



Frances de la Tour: Radio 4 8.15pm

Radio 2

5.02 am Cricket Desk. 5.03 Ray Moore. 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 pm John Dunn.† 2.00 Ed Stewart.† 4.00 David Hamilton.† 5.45 News and Sport. 6.00 Don Durbridge.† 8.00 Alan Dell. 8.30 The Mitchell Minstrels.† 9.00 The Boston Pops.† 10.00 Animal Alphabet U-Z. 10.30 Hubert Gregg. 11.00 Brian Matthew († from Midnight). 1.00 am Truckers' Hour.† 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 pm Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Peter Powell. 7.00 John Lennon 1940-1980. 8.00 David Jenson. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00 Midnight Close. VHF Radios 1 and 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.05-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz 463m) at the following times GMT — 06.00 Newsdesk 7.00 World News 7.09 Twenty Four Hours: News Summary 7.30 Letter from London 7.40 Book Choice 7.45 Report on Religion 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections 8.15 Operetta 8.30 Take it or Leave it 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead 9.45 Ray Moore's Album Time. 10.15 Classical Record Review 10.30 The Rod and the Black 11.00 World News 11.09 News about Britain 11.15 Listening Post. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Nature Notebook 12.25 The Farming World. 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 1.30 Radio Theatre 2.15 Report on Religion 2.30 Three Centuries of Italian Opera 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Outlook 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Star Choice. 4.45 The World Today 5.00 World News. 5.09 Listening Post. 5.25 Operetta 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 8.15 Music for Strings 8.30 Jazz for the Asking. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Paperback Choice 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 I Wish I'd Met.. 11.30 Top Twenty 12.00 World News 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 Listening Post. 12.45 Frank Muir Goes Into . 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Words that Changed Lives. 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 Assignment 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Just A Minute 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94 9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

SOUTHERN

As Thames except: 9.30 am Wild, Wild, World of Animals. 9.55 Bailey's Bird. 10.20 Patterns. 10.45 Tarzan. 11.40-12.00 Call of the Cuckoo* (Laurel and Hardy). 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25 Under Manning. 2.50-3.45 Charlie's Angels. 5.15 Dick Tracy 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.30-7.00 Mork and Mindy. 12.05 am Weather followed by Special Agent.

WESTWARD

As Thames except: Starts 9.35am Sesame Streeet. 10.35-12.00 Film: Murder She Said.* (Margaret Rutherford). Whodunit based on Agatha Christie story. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City. 6.00-6.35 Westward Diary. 10.37 News. 10.39 Midweek Sports Special. 12.05 am/ Superstar Profile: Michael Douglas. 12.30 Faith for Life. 12.36 Closedown.

GRANADA

As Thames except: 9.30 am Target the Impossible. 9.55 Bubbles. 10.00 Terronaughts: Sci-fi thriller. 11.00-12.00 Sesame Street. 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live from Two. 2.45-3.45 Bracken. 5.15-5.45 Adventures of Black Beauty. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This is Your Right. 6.30-7.00 Crossroads. 12.05 am Boots. 12.30 Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO * BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

ULSTER

As Thames except: Starts 12.00-12.10pm Munch Bunch. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 12.05 Bedtime: Closedown.

CHANNEL

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Election 81. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City. 6.00-6.35 Channel Report. 10.00-10.05 Life in France. 10.33 News. 10.39 Midweek Sports Special. 12.05 am Superstar Profile: Michael Douglas. 12.30 Epilogue followed by Closedown.

BORDER

As Thames except: 9.30 am Focus on Wildlife. 9.55 Joe 90. 10.20 Fangface. 10.45 World We Live In. 11.10-12.00 Little House on the Prairie. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Out Of Town with Jack Hargreaves. 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 12.05 am News. 12.08 Closedown.

ANGLIA

As Thames except: 9.30 am Mumbly. 9.40 England Their England. 10.10 No Man an Island. 10.40 At Home with the Spinners. 11.10 Cartoon. 11.15-12.00 Tenpin Bowling. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00-6.35 About Anglia. 12.05 am Preview. 12.35 These Are My Little Ones.

SCOTTISH

As Thames except: 9.30am Hands. 9.55 Amazing Years of Cinema. 10.20 Survival. 10.45 Epitaph. 11.10-12.00 Then Came Bronson. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City. 5.15 Tales of Crime. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Action Line. 6.30-7.00 World Worth Keeping. 12.05am Darts. 12.35 Late Call. 12.40 Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As Thames except: Starts 9.20am Good Word. 9.25 News. 9.30 Stars on Ice. 9.55 Joe 90. 10.20 Cartoon. 10.30 Friends of My Friends. 10.55 Comic Stories. 11.00 Antarctica. 11.50-12.00 European Folk Tales. 1.20pm News. 1.25-1.30 Where the Jobs Are. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 12.05am The Bible. 12.10 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As Thames except: 9.30 am World Fairy Tales. 9.40 Flight in White. 9.55 Film: Tale of Two Cities* (Dirk Bogarde) Classic story set in French Revolution. 11.45 Poetry of Landscape. 11.55-12.00 Wattoo Wattoo. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City. 3.45-4.15 Entertainers. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00-6.35 Calendar. 12.05 am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As Thames except: Starts 9.40 am First Thing. 9.45 Hands. 10.35 Target the Impossible. 11.00 News from Nowhere. 11.50-12.00 Cartoon. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City. 5.15-5.45 Batman. 6.00 North Tonight. 12.05 am Our Incredible Word: Jungles. 12.30 News. 12.35 Closedown.

ATV

As Thames except: 9.30 am European Folk Tales. 9.45 Circus. 10.10-12.00 Film: Madeleine* (Ann Todd). Well-to-do young woman is accused of murdering her lover. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Tenspeed and Brown Shoe. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30-7.00 ATV Today. 12.05 am Closedown.

HTV

As Thames except: 9.30 am Sesame Street. 10.30-12.00 Film: For The Love of Ada (Irene Handl, Wilfred Pickles). The perky pensioners celebrate their first wedding anniversary. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Strumpet City. 5.10 Ask Oscar! 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 Benson. 12.05 am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: 12.00-12.10 pm Flalabalam. 4.45 Gogils. 5.10-5.20 Dick Tracy. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30-7.00 Taff Acre.

Barbara Shelley as Vanozza (The Borgias BBC 2 9.25pm)

CHOICE

● **EDWIN LUTYENS: MASTER ARCHITECT** (BBC 2 7.25pm) Patrick Nuttgens, an architect and director of Leeds Polytechnic, has written and narrated an appreciation of one of the most prolific of British architects, Sir Edwin Landseer Lutyens. Born in 1869, the eleventh of fourteen children, his early life was dominated by his mother who encouraged her son's interest in art and design. When he died in 1944 he was hailed as possibly the greatest architect England had ever produced, but later, with the growing influence of the Modern Movement, his work was downgraded to the extent that his name did not appear in a history of British architecture. But his career, as Mr Nuttgens vividly describes, went from strength to strength. His first professional commission was completed at the age of twenty and, after his collaboration with landscape gardener Gertrude Jekyll, his work became fashionable. There is some wonderful film of examples of his prodigious British output — country houses, cathedrals and, of course, the Cenotaph — as well as from his period in India. But not all the programme is about his work. Nuttgens has culled some revealing anecdotes about the man Osbert Sitwell once described as having an air of "mischievous benevolence"

● **PITMAN** (ITV 9.00pm), a documentary by Frank Hayes, follows the fortunes of the four contenders for the Presidency of the National Union of Mineworkers as they go about the business of campaigning. The result is known, but Authur Scargill will not take office until the present incumbent, Joe Gormley, retires next year. For two months the cameras have been following Arthur Scargill, Ray Chadburn, Trevor Bell and Barney Donaghy through their different moods — at private meetings, frank conversations and relaxation. Included is the recent meeting at Coalville when three of them were on the platform; an interview with Sir Derek Ezra who comments on the importance of the post; and a behind-the-public-figure look at the retiring president.

● **UNFAN LETTERS** (Radio 3 10.15pm) is an amusing little programme, produced by Brian Miller for BBC Bristol. Writer Francis King talks about some of the unflattering letters he has received from readers critical of his work. The cross-section we hear are read by Esmond Rideout and Val Lorraine.

Entertainments Guide

24 injured as train coaches overturn

From Ronald Kershaw
Tadcaster

Seven carriages of the York to Liverpool inter-city train were derailed just south of Tadcaster yesterday. Although two carriages overturned and rolled down a 20ft embankment into a field, no one was killed and only one man was seriously injured. With 23 other passengers suffering from minor injuries and shock, he was taken to hospital at York.

The 1.50 pm from York was travelling at about 60mph along a straight stretch of line approaching the hamlet of Ulleskelf when, for no apparent reason, it left the rails.

The sixth coach left its wheels and rolled down the embankment while the seventh hit a signal and retained some of its wheels as it also turned over down the slope. About 20 people were in the two coaches. A British Rail spokesman said the carriages were designed to leave their wheels in case of accident and were sufficiently strongly supported to withstand rolling over.

But he added that it was a miracle that no one was more seriously hurt.

After the injured were taken to hospital the train's remaining 60 passengers were ferried to Leeds by coach.

Last night engineers were seeking the cause of the derailment which occurred on one of the quietest stretches of line in the region.

Other services were either bypassing the accident or being rerouted through Selby. An inquiry will open at Leeds later this week.

Helicopters lift crew off burning ship

☐ Twenty-eight crewmen were winched to safety in darkness and choppy seas by two Royal Navy helicopters yesterday after a fire aboard a cargo ship in the English Channel (the Press Association reports).

Two men were injured, one seriously, in the blaze aboard the Jersey-registered 5,700-tonne Melpol. One man is missing.

A medical officer from the Royal Fleet Auxiliary helicopter-support vessel Engadine, which led the rescue, was winched on to the Melpol to tend the injured. A fire-fighting team was also put aboard. The doctor and the Melpol's Filipino crew were then switched to the Europic Ferry, a Townsend Thoresen freight vessel on its way to Le Havre.



Mike Sullivan

Passengers walk the tracks near Vauxhall Station, London, after waiting three hours on a stationary train between Waterloo and Clapham Junction.

Commuters take to the tracks

Continued from page 1

treacherous icy conditions on roads that had not been gritted and urged them to take extreme care and allow up to an extra hour for their journey.

British Rail said some delays could be expected today, but as de-icing trains would run all night and point heaters would be kept switched on they were not expected to be nearly as severe as yesterday.

British Rail faced considerable difficulties caused by frozen and blocked points, especially on services into London. Impatient passengers on Southern Region brought lines into Waterloo to a halt for three hours when they jumped from delayed trains and walked alongside electrified tracks. The power had to be switched off because of the danger of death or serious injury. British Rail described their action as "lunacy".

It was also condemned as foly by Southern Region, who said thousands of other passengers were delayed for many hours as a result. Other trains had to be emptied and passengers guided along the track to stations near by.

Thousands of commuters who use the Underground were also delayed because services above ground in the outer London areas were delayed or halted by blocked points. The Metropolitan Line was severely disrupted, London Transport added.

Railways and Underground services were nearly back to normal for last night's homeward rush but motorists faced dangerous road conditions with frozen snow and ice.

Heathrow and Gatwick airports were almost halted because of the snow. At Heathrow, British Airways cancelled 48 shorthaul flights and diverted others. Together with Pan Am, it condemned the British Airports Authority for the delay in clearing only five centimetres of snow from the runways.

The BAA, which has spent more than £2m on new snow-clearing equipment in the last 18 months, was in fact faced with a lightning strike by snowplough drivers in a demarcation dispute. Management staff eventually cleared both runways, which were back in action by lunchtime.

On the roads, conditions were severe, with five inches of snow lying in several places. Two lanes of the M1 were closed in Northamptonshire and 30 mph speed limit was imposed on all motorways in the South-east.

The AA said driving conditions were treacherous and accused some drivers of causing accidents by doing U-turns when they came across traffic jams. There were reports of lorries overturning or jackknifing on many roads which had not been gritted.

A 15-mile stretch of the M40 was closed in the afternoon between junctions one and five and was not reopened until last night because of accidents caused by black ice beneath the snow.

Thames Valley Police said they had been unable to keep pace with the number of accident reports, although the road had been gritted three times in an attempt to stop it freezing.

Some London-bound commuters took five hours to get to work. There were reports of people using their own cars, then trains, Tubes and finally taxis to complete their journeys.

Many suburban stations, especially those on Southern Region, were packed to bursting point with frustrated passengers. A spokesman for the region said: "It was mainly a problem with the points. The snowfall was so heavy and sudden that the snow compacted between the points and the heaters could not cope.

"We had that problem with the points at Vauxhall, delaying trains into Waterloo, but some passengers got fed up waiting and jumped on to the track. Some were persuaded to get back in but others wandered along the track

Traffic control centre, page 2

Heath attacks Howe on 'mini-budget' proposals

Continued from page 1

interest rates and exchange rates.

Protesting that he was being as helpful as he could, Mr Heath told an obviously unimpressed Chancellor that he was delighted to see he was now thinking in broader terms. What worried him most was that the country could not see that at the end of all these monetarist proceedings the future would be any the better for them. Now that Sir Geoffrey was moving so beautifully round the curve, he should tell the country what was going to happen and when.

Sir Geoffrey, as he opened the debate, sounded almost as though he wanted to respond to some of Mr Heath's demands for clarification. Continually interrupted by Tory sceptics, including Sir Ian Gilmour, the former Lord Privy Seal, he battled bravely through the surrounding gloom.

On a slightly hopeful note he told the House that at this stage he was neither threatening increases nor promising reductions in the burden of taxation. That would have to wait for the full Budget judgment in the spring. Saying that he was not inflexible and certainly not a Scrooge-like Chancellor, Sir Geoffrey argued that before long we should be moving into conditions where job prospects would improve. Some of the early signs were already there.

But he gave a warning that nobody in any part of the political spectrum offered the prospect of an early return to what was once thought of as full employment. Refusing to respond to the pleas for reflation, Sir Geoffrey said that would involve high risks.

As for Mrs Williams, she could not see how increased rates, rents and charges would do anything effective about inflation. The British people were being sacrificed on the altar of monetarism. Her party believed that there was a strong case for a reflation figure of £5bn to £6bn a year. At present there was profound confusion in industry, despair in the great cities and bitterness among young people. From all sides of the House, Mrs Williams said, the Government was being urged to adopt a reasonable, moderate, and sensible policy of reflation and reinvestment. In the interests of saving the economy from its present desperate condition she begged the Government to think again.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Frank Johnson in the Commons

The Borgia-like hatreds of Heath and Powell

Sydney Smith once said that every time there was a new book, he looked for an old book. To be candid, one has no idea whether Sydney Smith said anything of the sort. It is just that half the smart remarks ever made are customarily attributed to Sydney Smith. It may have been F. E. Smith, to whom are attributed the other half; or for all one knows, Cyril Smith, or W. H. Smith, or Harvey Smith, or my cleaning lady, Mrs Smith.

All of which is by way of being a preamble to the observation that every time there is a Big Debate, I look for a Little Debate. For, under the First Law of Parliamentary Tedium, big debates are always a disappointment. So it was with leaden hearts that we all assembled yesterday for yet another big debate on the economy. One searched on the order paper for a little debate, but there were none. The economy would be on all day.

Over at the Lords, they had, among other things the third reading of the Hops Marketing Bill and the Harbours (Scotland) Bill, but these were rather too epic for my purposes. No, the big debate on the economy it had to be.

And soon, as so often happens, one's essential loyalty to the series took over. Parliament has had almost as bad a press as the BBC's "Borgias". There are complaints that all they do is stab one another, that the accents are all wrong, that Mr Edward Heath does not look a bit like that, and so on.

But yesterday's big debate could easily be confused with an interesting occasion. It was enlivened by speeches from Mrs Shirley Williams and Mr Heath. Admittedly, it was deadened by one from Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. But you cannot have everything. There were all the most famous politicians of the day sitting within a few feet of each other. As well as the present one, there were two former heads of Government, since Mr Callaghan was present for a while as well as Mr Heath. All it needed was Sir Harold Wilson and it would have been a full crisis of Prime Ministers.

Sir Geoffrey Howe spoke first and was, in the opinion of this observer, more or less right about everything. Moreover, any other conceivable Chancellor would be doing the same. Indeed, several already had. This will get Sir Geoffrey nowhere.

Sounding like one of those lead stories in *Pravda*, he broke the news that the steelworks at Llanwern was "breaking production records week after week". Somehow the Tories are now so demoralized that they believe none of it. All Sir Geoffrey's statistics sounded plausible. In his tedious way, he showed that the "reflation" of Labour and Social Democrats was simply inflation. There was this Jones the Stahkanovite breaking productivity records week by week in Llanwern.

The Tories slumped on.

Mr Heath rose. As he spoke, Mrs Thatcher's face stared down at the notes she was making, as if for the speech with which she would close the debate. She was not making a speech closing the debate. No matter. She had to find something to do with her face as Mr Heath spoke. On a distant backbench, Mr Enoch Powell listened intently.

Here were hatreds of Borgia-like complexity. Mr Powell hates Mr Heath. Mr Heath hates Mr Powell. But he (Mr Heath) also hates Mrs Thatcher, who hates him back. Mr Powell hates Mrs Thatcher as well. But that is not because she is Mrs Thatcher. She qualifies for it merely because she is Conservative leader. It is an ex officio hatred; nothing personal.

Mr Heath was enjoying a great success with the bulk of the House as he denounced unemployment. Mr Powell was visibly growing angry. Mr Heath made some monstrously technical point about the Opec balances. He may or may not have been right, but that was not the point. Mr Powell intervened and asked an equally monstrous technical question.

Mr Heath smiled. Mr Powell sat down with the observation: "... and the Right Hon Gentleman might as well take the grin off his face". The whole House went: "Ooooo," and "Pheeeeew." For a second, the two men were linked by bonds of mutual detestation. Mr Heath replied: "The Right Hon Gentleman can ask a great deal, but it's too much to ask me to do that". No one cared who was right about the technical point. Mr Heath had won his first game against Mr Powell in all the years of championship hatred they had played against one another.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Tomorrow's events

Royal engagements

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits headquarters of Royal Society for Mentally Handicapped, (MENCAP), National Centre, 123 Golden Lane, EC1, and opens sheltered workshop and roof extension, 3.

Princess Margaret visits Imperial Metal Industries, Birmingham, 11.30; opens the new wing of Training School of Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, Birmingham, 2.45.

Princess Anne, attends carol festival organized by National Children's Home, Christ Church, Oxford, 2.30.

The Duke of Kent visits British Telecom Computer Centre, Harmondsworth to inaugurate computerised cargo handling system for Heathrow and Gatwick airports, 11.15.

Christmas lights

Trafalgar Square: Christmas tree lights to be switched on by Mr Frithjof Jacobsen, Norwegian Ambassador, 6 pm.

Japan Exhibition

The first stage of the Great Japan Exhibition: Art of the Edo Period (1600-1868) closes soon at the Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly. The exhibition will be suspended between December 21 to 27 while two thirds of the treasures on display are changed. It reopens on December 28.

Provincial events

Paintings by Edward Mooney, Ginnel Gallery, 369/371 Bury New Road, Manchester, 9.30 to 5.30.

Paintings by Judith Ryan, Arts Centre Gallery, Plymouth, 9.30 to 6.

Concert, Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra, Coventry Cathedral, 7.30.

Talks, lectures

Man the Artist, Natural History Museum, 3.

Florence Nightingale: Mystical Statistician, by Prof M Stone, University College of London, Botany Theatre, 1.20.

Illegality of Nuclear Weapons, by Sean MacBride, New Theatre, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, WC2, 7.30.

Tiepolo, by Andrey P Tyndall, National Gallery, 1.

Funerary scenes on Greek vases, by Anne Pearson, 11.30; Sumerian trade and economy, by David Williams, 1.15; both at British Museum.

Making glass in the city, by Wendy Evans, Museum of London, EC2, 1.10.

Wilbur and Orville Wright memorial lecture, by Sir John Charnley, Royal Aeronautical Society, 4 Hamilton Place, W1, 6.

Public sculpture in the 1950s, by Richard Calvocoressi, Tate, 1.

Last chance to see

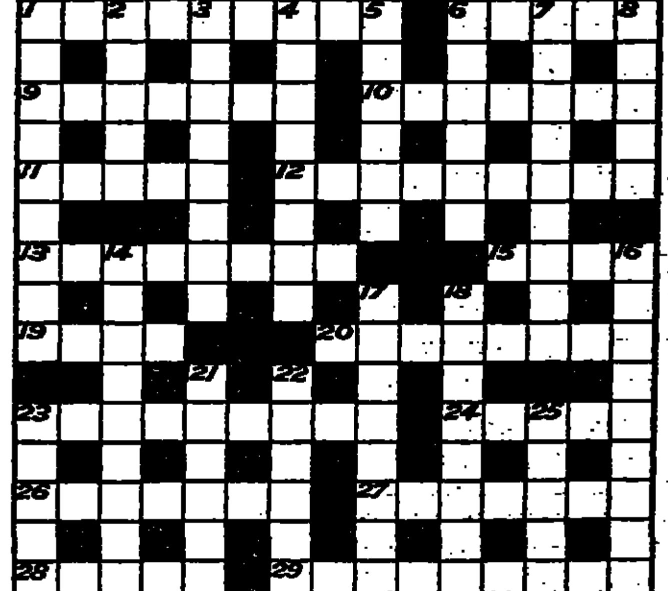
Etchings by Piranesi and contemporaries, Building Centre, Store St, WC1, 9.30 to 5.30.

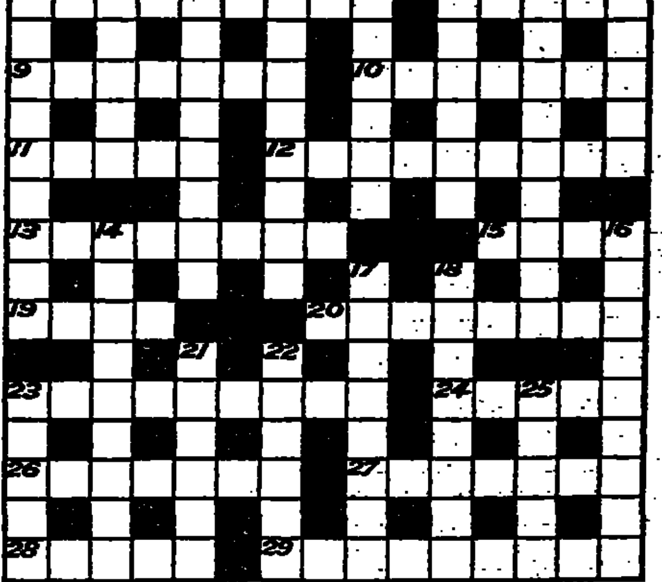
Paintings and drawings by Paul Niszczak, Datchet Gallery, Country Life House, The Green, Datchet, 10 to 5.30.

Thanksgiving services

Sir Gilbert Rennie, St Martin-in-the-Fields, noon; Sir Lionel Heald, QC, Temple Church, 4.45.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,701





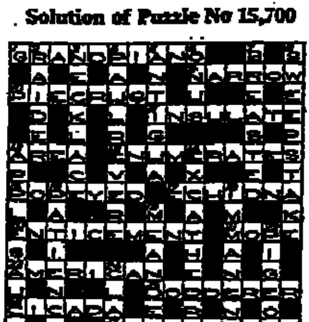
ACROSS

1 Sporting hedge bird? (9).
6 We hear bird noises by Samuel (5).
9 Trumpet call brings tribe round port (7).
10 Help Ariel in his bee imitation, say (7).
11 Mug Gertrude? (5).
12 Now in US — here before long (9).
13 Garage work angers GI, possibly (8).
15 Will perhaps exclude Debussy's overture (4).
19 Kind of pretty personal letters (4).
20 Wireless components they say (8).
23 Fish has maybe gone where angler wants it (6-3).
24 Generous return for student in black (5).
26 Exclusive type of soldier? (7).
27 Might make Mr Donat caustic (7).
28 Great fear of race leader coming in late (5).
29 Can cricketer be useful in the kitchen? (3-6).

DOWN

1 Support view on certain weaponry (9).
2 In general, like a document (5).
3 Justice preferred by fictional gentry? (8).
4 Square leg's game? (8).
5 She is replaced by the star (6).
6 A lot of money to pay for a boat (6).
7 Players treat fabrication as lying (9).
8 Churlish? Certainly not East (5).
14 Too much shopping? (9).
16 Possibly sides with rent collector — he doesn't agree (9).
17 Enchanting US cardinal? (8).
18 Bit of a fall in the dinar or possibly the penny (8).
21 Many called up to make claim (6).
22 Concerned with Anglican holy writ of late? (6).
23 Love to be in sleuths' round-up (5).
25 Strong meat? (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,700



Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debates on common fisheries policy and on heavy lorries, on opposition motions.

Lord's (2.30): Debate on defence.

Sporting fixtures

Football: Uefa Cup, third round, Dundee United v Winterslag (7.30); League Cup, fourth round, Crystal Palace v West Bromwich Albion (7.30), Everton v Ipswich (7.45); University match, Oxford v Cambridge, Wembley, 2.0.

Rugby Union: Tour match, Lancashire v Australians, Vale of Lune, 2.15.

Rugby League: First division, Hull v Leigh, 7.30.

Sport on TV

BBC 1: 9.30, Sports review of 1981.
ITV: 10.35, Mid-week Sports Special.

Today's anniversary

John Milton was born in London, 1608.

The Times list of best-selling books

Hardback

Robot	Jan Pienkowski	Heinemann	£5.95
Whitaker's Almanac 1982		Whitaker	£9.00
Masquerade	Kit Williams	Cape	£3.50
HRH The Princess Margaret: A Life Unfulfilled	Nigel Dempster	Quartet	£7.95
Tonight Josephine and Other Undiscovered Letters	Michael Green	Secker & Warburg	£3.95
Twice Shy	Dick Francis	Michael Joseph	£6.95
The Day Job	Terry Wogan	Queen Anne Press	£5.25
The Most Amazing Hide and Seek Counting Book	Robert Crowther	Kestrel	£4.50
Hangovers	Clement Freud	Sheldon Press	£3.95
Guinness Book of Records 1982		Guinness	£4.99

Paperback

101 Uses of a Dead Cat	Simon Bond	Eyre Methuen	£2.25
Not 1982		Faber	£2.99
Giles Cartoon Book 35		Express Newspapers	£1.35
Eavesdroppings	Nigel Rees	Unwin Paperbacks	£1.25
Brideshead Revisited	Evelyn Waugh	Penguin	£2.50
Priestland's Progress	Gerald Priestland	BBC	£3.50
The French Lieutenant's Woman	John Fowles	Granada	£1.95
Unreliable Memoirs	Clive James	Picador	£1.50
The Irish Kama Sutra	Peter O'Regan and Sean Dunbar	Futura	80p
The Diary of a Farmer's Wife 1796-1797	Anne Hughes	Penguin	£2.75

The Times list is based on trade sales through Hammick's to 400 bookshops and verified retail sales through eight Hammick's bookshops and 20 others.

Bernard Levin will be talking about his new book Conducted Tour (Jonathan Cape) on December 10 at Manchester Library Theatre, 1.10 to 1.50 pm. Tickets 60p.

The 1982 Unesco World Congress on Books is to be held at Kensington Town Hall from June 7-11.

Auctions today

Christie's, King Street: English and foreign silver; early printed books and manuscripts, both at 11. Christie's, South Kensington: old and modern jewelry, 10.30; modern British and Continental pictures, watercolours, drawings and sculpture, 10.30; carpets and objects of art, 10.30; English and Continental pictures, 2; furniture, 1; clocks and barometers, 2. Phillips, Blenheim Street: Chinese and Japanese ceramics and works of art, 11; Art Nouveau, decorative arts and studio ceramics, 11; railways, toys and engines, 12. Sotheby's, Bond Street: wine, 10; Old Master paintings, 11; English pictures, 2.30.

The papers

On the privacy of the Princess of Wales, the Daily Mirror says:

"The Princess of Wales is suffering from her own popularity. Wherever she goes, she is pursued by the world's reporters and, particularly, photographers. The strain is beginning to tell and the Royal Family is understandably worried, as any family would be.

"Lady Di, as everyone still calls her, is only 20 and pregnant. From comparative obscurity she became, almost overnight, the most famous young woman in the world. That means she is also the most sought-after.

"Yesterday, Buckingham Palace asked Britain's editors to ease the strain. To report and picture her public engagements but to leave her private life free from peeping-tom cameras. It is a fair request at this time and the Daily Mirror will respect it."

The Queen's fears for the health and happiness of the Princess of Wales are shared by us all, the Daily Express says, adding that the paper has always supported the Royal Family and respected its privacy, and will continue to do so.

Roads

The AA advises drivers to reduce speed, increase stopping distances and handle all controls gently when faced with extremely icy conditions. For up-to-the-minute information on roads, telephone your local AA office.

AA 24-hr information service: 01-954 7373.

The following Weather Centres are open 9 to 5 for advice on weather conditions: Bristol: 0272 279288; London: 01-836 4311; Manchester: 061-832 6701; Newcastle: 0632 26453; Nottingham: 0602 384092; Southampton: 0703 28844.

Wales and West: A305: Roadworks at Horton and Buckland St Mary, Somerset. A35: Diversion, Christchurch town centre. A38:

Midlands: A47: Temporary signals at Eye, Thorney Toll and Wansford, Cambridgeshire. A45: Lane closures at Rougham, Suffolk, and Newmarket by-pass. Ruislip. A259: Eastbound traffic

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.73	1.66
Austria Sch	32.10	30.00
Belgium Fr	85.00	81.00
Canada $	2.36	2.27
Denmark Kr	14.60	13.90
Finland Mkk	8.80	8.35
France Fr	11.40	10.80
Germany DM	4.53	4.29
Greece Dr	122.00	114.00
Ireland Pt	1.26	1.21
Italy Lir	2380.00	2280.00
Japan Yn	446.00	420.00
Netherlands Gld	4.93	4.69
Norway Kr	11.57	10.97
Portugal Esc	130.00	123.00
South Africa Rd	1.94	1.78
Spain Pta	194.00	184.50
Sweden Kr	11.10	10.54
Switzerland Fr	3.66	3.44
USA $	2.00	1.93
Yugoslavia Dnr	95.00	89.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International.

London: The *FT* Index fell 11.8 to 521.7.

New York: the Dow Jones industrial average closed down 5.24 at 881.75.

Weather

Pressure will remain low over the North Sea. A trough of low pressure will move E along the English Channel.

Forecasts from 6 am to midnight

London, Midlands: Mostly dry, sunny periods; wind W light; max temp 1 or 2C (34 to 36F).

SE Central, S England: Mostly dry, bright or sunny periods, becoming more cloudy with perhaps snow in S; wind W light; max temp 1 or 2C (34 to 36F).

East Anglia, E, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee: Snow showers, especially near coasts; mostly dry well inland; wind NW, moderate; max temp 1C (34F).

Channel Islands, SW England: Rather cloudy, sleet or snow for a time, wind W, or NW moderate; max temp 3C (37F).

S, N Wales, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland: Sunny intervals, scattered snow showers; wind NW, light or moderate; max temp 2 or 3C (36 or 37F).

NW Central N England, Lake District, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Mostly dry, sunny periods; wind N, light; max 1 or 2C (34 to 36F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Sunny periods and scattered snow showers.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind NW, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough. English Channel (E): Wind NW, mainly moderate; sea slight to moderate. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind NW, moderate or fresh; sea moderate.

Sun rises: 7.54 am. Sun sets: 3.52 pm.
Moon sets: 4.52 am. Moon rises: 3.01 pm.
Full moon: December 11.

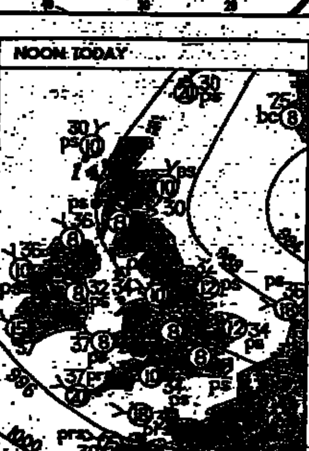
Lighting up time

London 4.22 pm to 7.25 am
Bristol 4.32 pm to 7.34 am
Edinburgh 4.09 pm to 8.2 am
Manchester 4.20 pm to 7.44 am
Penzance 4.50 pm to 7.40 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	f	0	32	Guernsey	f	8	46
Birmingham	c	−1	30	Inverness	f	0	32
Blackpool	f	1	34	Jersey	c	9	48
Bristol	f	1	34	London	sn	0	32
Cardiff	c	1	34	Manchester	[illegible]	[illegible]	32
Edinburgh	s	−1	30	Newcastle	s	[illegible]	[illegible]
Glasgow	s	1	34	Ronaldsway	c	0	32



Highest and lowest

Highest day max: Isles of Scilly, Guernsey, 10C (50F). Lowest day max: Stansted, Lyneham, Stornoway, [illegible] −1C (30F). Highest rainfall: [illegible] 1.02in. Highest sunshine: Tenby, [illegible]

Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

MANCHESTER: [illegible]

Predictions supplied by Earth Satellite Unit, Aston University.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)

NOON TODAY

b—blue sky; bc—half-clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

High tides

[illegible]

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Scarborough	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bridlington	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cromer	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lowestoft	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Clacton	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bognor	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Shanklin	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bournemouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Poole	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swanage	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Weymouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Exmouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Teignmouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Torquay	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Falmouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Jersey	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Guernsey	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Isles of Scilly	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sl, sleet; sn, snow.

[illegible]